

# What is the Staffordshire Highways Base Specification?

The aim of this document is to ensure that adopted highway is constructed and maintained to high standards, giving best value for money for the people of Staffordshire.

**'Highway' includes all adopted features such as carriageway, footway, verges, landscaping, drainage, structures and many more.**

This document is the primary document for specifying all permanent highway works in Staffordshire, including:

- Structural and Preventative Maintenance – including patching
- New housing or commercial developments – including technical review and adoptions
- New accesses off the highway
- New bypasses
- Highways Improvement Schemes
- Highways Safety Schemes

# Where does this document fit with other standards?

The Base Specification does not duplicate the content of any other relevant national standards – but it will point you towards them.

The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and the Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works are national documents that apply to the design of trunk roads – they are **not** mandatory documents for local authority roads. This specification supersedes them.

Where the Base Specification differs from national standards, this usually means a deliberate choice has been made.



Staffordshire Highways Base Specification v2.5

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June 2024

# Why does it matter?

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## APPENDIX 7/1: PERMITTED PAVEMENT OPTIONS (Continued)

### 5. REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS - SCHEDULE 5

SC1 (Modified) Only permitted on ≤30mph low risk locations. <i>See Note 1</i>	911	HRA 55/10 F surf 100/150 des	PD 6691 Annex C table C2 col 5 Minimum target binder 5.8% Coarse aggregate: Crushed rock only excluding limestone. No RA to be used in the mix Minimum PSV and Maximum AAV: See 975AR
SC2 Preferred on >30mph and heavily trafficked locations <i>See Note 1</i>	911  and 915	HRA 35/14 F surf 40/60 des  14/20 Pre-coated Chippings	EN 13108-4 & PD6691 table C.2 col 7 Limiting wheel track values PD 6691 table C.4 Coarse aggregate: Crushed rock only. PSV 45 min AAV 12 max. B <sub>min</sub> 6.6  PD 6691 Annex C Minimum PSV and Maximum AAV: See 975AR
SC3	971AR	SMA 10 surf 40/60	Clause 971 AR Coarse Aggregate: Single source crushed rock only see 971AR Minimum PSV and Maximum AAV: See 975AR Sealing grit to be mechanically applied at the rate of 0.5 - 0.7kg/m <sup>2</sup> during compaction.

This document provides the basis for our adoptable and maintenance standards and allows us to ensure we:

- Can challenge suppliers and contractors in case of dispute
- Review designs against our local requirements and not national DMRB standards
- Support contractors and suppliers to order the appropriate materials
- Incorporate long term asset management principles into new builds from the very beginning
- Build long term maintainability into our asset
- Advise contractors on technical designs during early contractor involvement
- Get things **right first time.**

# How to use the Specification

- The Specification is available online on the Staffordshire County Council website.
- Highway detail drawings (HWDs) are also available online in the same location.
- This document and the HWDs are regularly updated – don't store copies locally and always ensure you are designing to the latest version.
- Page 3 of the document lists the latest changes.
- Microsoft Word versions of the document can be obtained on request from the scheme contact Engineer.
- Mandatory clauses, tables of requirements and schedules must not change. Typical examples of fixed requirements include:
  - The list of required testing in Appendix 1/6
  - Schedules of acceptable materials listed in Appendix 6/1 and 7/1
  - Footway construction types in Appendix 11/1

# Common Queries

Often overlooked clauses with Staffordshire Specific Requirements are:

- Cl. 970AR Air Void Contents of Bituminous Mixtures. Enhanced void requirements and specified test methods including coring.
- Cl. 971AR Stone Mastic Asphalt. Higher binder content, single geological aggregate source, and sealing grit use.
- Cl. 975AR Surface Course Aggregate Selection. Modifies the requirements of CD 236.
- Appendix 1/6 Note 10 (Mandatory use of Equilibrium Design CBR on natural formation) and Schedule of Tests
- Appendix 5/1 cl. 7 Design of Chamber Tops and Cl. 8 Design of Gully Tops
- Appendix 6/7 cl. 3 Formation. Prohibition of plate bearing on natural formation
- Appendix 7/1 Schedule 5, Carriageway Materials – acceptable bituminous materials and associated notes.
- Appendix 7/1 Schedule 6, Texture Depth Requirements
- Appendix 11/1 Cl. 2 Footways and Paved Areas

Queries or requests for clarification can be submitted to your scheme contact or [highwayspecification@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highwayspecification@staffordshire.gov.uk)