

**National Network Manager  
Trunk Roads: Network Management**

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**Operating Company Representatives**

Your ref:

Our ref:  
B1084014

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**ELECTION POSTERS**

Transport Scotland has been asked to consider its policy with regard to the placing of advertising material by political parties to ensure consistency of approach. I am writing to advise you that, with immediate effect, **the placing of election material within the trunk road boundary is precluded.**

The decision to keep trunk roads free of election material has been taken for a number of reasons:

- There is general agreement that driver distraction has a negative impact on road safety. Consequently, Transport Scotland's general position is to reduce to a minimum all but essential signage.
- There is also a potential safety issue connected to the erection and removal of posters etc particularly those which are inappropriately sited.
- A proliferation of election material from a number of sources can and often does result in a detrimental impact on the general amenity along the routes affected by election posters. Although the majority of election agents' act responsibly in organising the early removal of posters once the election has passed, additional resources often have to be targeted on ensuring the posters are removed and in some cases the posters have to be removed at Transport Scotland's expense.

Of course, this policy only applies to the Scottish trunk road network, for which Transport Scotland has operational responsibility. The placing of election posters within local roads boundaries is a matter for individual Councils.

Any representatives from political parties who approach you should be advised of this policy and should be provided with a copy of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Gooday".

**John Gooday  
National Network Manager**