

22 July 2020

REF NUMBER: IR-01-20-19741

Neil Cresswell  
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Dear Neil Cresswell

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 15 July 2020 for information relating to stationary patrol at night.

You requested:

1. *Can I request the policy on the use of park lights/brake lights for police cars when on stationary patrol at night? It seems to be common that Police cars are not visibly illuminated when stationary patrolling roadside at night (other than seemingly their number plate light); both parked off the road or parked on the hard shoulder.*

The *Speed Enforcement* and *Alcohol and Drug Impaired Driving* chapters of the *Police Instructions* provides guidance to staff on conducting stationary patrol.

The guidance in the *Speed Enforcement* chapter is as follows:

Ensure	Note
<p>When vehicles are used to operate speed enforcement equipment, they are parked in accordance with the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004, or any bylaws in force for that location.</p>	<p>Police have an exemption from parking related offences that arise under the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004, by virtue of clause 1.8(3)(b) where the action was necessary in the performance of duty. However, this exemption should be used in limited circumstances.</p> <p>Despite the general exemption under the Land Transport (Road User Rule) 2004, for the purposes of staff and public safety it is a requirement that during the hours of darkness an enforcement vehicle is illuminated from a light source so that it is visible or vehicle park lights are operated when conducting speed checks or any similar enforcement, when stationary on the roadside.</p>

**Police National Headquarters**

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The guidance in the *Alcohol and Drug Impaired Driving* chapter is as follows:

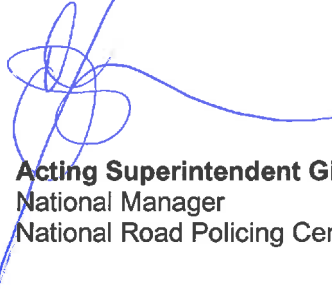
Ensure site vehicles comply with the Road User rule by parking legally.

Enforcement vehicles must be illuminated from a light source so that they are visible or operate their vehicle park lights when stationary on the roadside during the hours of darkness.

This enhances officer safety and gives additional warning to the public.

You have the right, under section 28 (3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely



**Acting Superintendent Gini Welch**  
National Manager  
National Road Policing Centre