

# DS.315

## Warning Signs

Rev.	Status	Created by	Date	Approved by	Date
A	Final	D.Farnham	29.04.13	D.Waters	08.05.13

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Notes

- a. This standard explains requirements about the use and design of upright warning signs. These are red triangular traffic signs that are sometimes provided to make road users aware of potential hazards that they are approaching which might not be apparent.
- b. See standard DS.900 for definitions of terms used in this design standard. Note in particular the definitions for 'should', 'will', 'may', 'level 1 departure', 'level 2 departure' and 'approving officer' as used to describe requirements.
- c. See standard DS.300 for general requirements on the use of traffic signs and road markings, including sign sizes, lighting requirements, and the use of backing boards.
- d. See SSDM/PR procedure PC.082 about the status of any revised version of this standard that may be issued during the active life of a project.
- e. See the SSDM webpages at [www.southwark.gov.uk/ssdm](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/ssdm) for a list of frequently asked questions about the design of streets and spaces.

### 1.2 Discussion

- a. See standard DS.300 for a general discussion about the use of traffic signs, including warning signs.

## 2 Use requirements

- a. Unless directed otherwise in other design standards the introduction of warning signs will need agreement to a level 1 departure. An evidenced safety need that could not be otherwise addressed without the need for signage (else by less visually intrusive measures) will need to be demonstrated. Generally this will be evidenced by the findings of a Road Safety Audit report and subsequent consideration of these in a following Quality Audit. However, this does not prevent an approving officer from permitting such a departure on the same grounds in advance of Road Safety Audit where they are satisfied that such measures are necessary.

*NOTE: See SSDM/PR procedure PC.040 for further information about Road Safety Audits and procedure PC.022 for further information about Quality Audits.*

- b. As per the requirements of standard DS.300, unless approved otherwise all existing warning signs encountered within a project area should be reviewed with a view to either:
  - i. Removing these without other measures where no clear safety requirement for them exists.
  - ii. Designing these out through the use of other less intrusive means (as per 'a') where an evidenced safety need for them is identified.

In order to ensure both that this review takes place and that signs provided for a legitimate purpose are not removed without thinking, whether they are to be removed or retained, a level 1 departure will be required. This will be subject to the findings of the review.

### 3 Design requirements

- a. Where their introduction or retention is permitted, warning signs should be located on either:
  - i. Street lighting columns.
  - ii. A post containing at least one other traffic sign.

They should not be located on individual sign posts or traffic sign lighting columns. This applies both to newly introduced warning signs and any existing warning signs encountered within a project area. The latter should be relocated in accordance with these requirements when they are to be retained.