



7th of June 2022

NGS Circular 1 of 2022

National Guidelines and Standards Group

To: -

Chief Executive of each Local Authority
Chief Executive of Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Chief Executive of the National Transport Authority

Re: Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) - 2022 Update

Dear Chief Executive,

The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) was launched by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport and the Minister for Housing and Planning in 2013. The document was updated in 2019 and included additional guidelines on applicability as well as a new website, www.dmurs.ie.

This Circular issues updates in relation to Advice Note 2 on Materials and Specifications whereby a new version (Version 2.0) is available on the DMURS and Department of Transport websites.

In addition to the above, the following key points should be noted: -

Applicability

The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) is the principal design manual for urban roads and streets and is mandatory when providing new or modifying existing urban roads and streets within the 60 km/h urban speed limit zone except for: -

- Motorways,
- In exceptional circumstances, on certain urban roads and streets where the written consent of the relevant Approving Authority (see below) has been obtained.

The guidelines set out in the DMURS Manual outline practical design measures to support the National Planning Framework and its objectives in relation to compact cities, place making and the encouragement of more sustainable travel patterns in urban areas. DMURS also supports road safety and urban design and provides guidance and

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standards for both new and existing urban roads and streets in Ireland, incorporating good planning and design practice.

Multi-Disciplinary

A multidisciplinary approach is required to be taken in the implementation of DMURS, which is designed to be usable by all professionals associated with street design. The principles, approaches and standards set out in DMURS are intended for use by suitably qualified and experienced designers who work within the built environment professions. See DMURS section 5.3.

Audits

Delivery of projects that are suitable and safe is critical and it is important that Safety Audits and Quality Audits are undertaken to demonstrate that appropriate consideration has been given to all of the relevant aspects of the design. Quality Audits generally consist of a number of individual and overlapping audits such as Safety and Road User type audits. See DMURS Section 5.4 and Advice Note 4.

Exceptions / Departures

Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) is the principal design standard for urban roads and streets and thus the use of alternative design standards shall not apply other than in exceptional circumstances. Where those circumstances arise, written approval shall be obtained in the form of a Derogation/Departure from the relevant Oversight Authority.

Oversight

Implementation of DMURS is subject to the following oversight arrangements: -

- By Transport Infrastructure Ireland for schemes on national roads or works funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland,
- By the Department of Transport (DoT) for schemes or works, funded or part funded under the Regional and Local Roads Investment Programme,
- By the National Transport Authority for schemes or works funded or part funded by the National Transport Authority.



DMURS Publication / Website

The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) is jointly published by the Department of Transport and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. DMURS is available on www.dmurs.ie as well as the Department of Transport website www.gov.ie/transport.

The Department website includes all updated documents and supplementary material including Advice Notes.

The DMURS websites includes all updated and original documents as well as supplementary material (including Advice Notes). This website is also designed to be a resource tool with workshop/presentation material, case study material and links to other key publications. Organisations and practitioners are also invited to submit best practice case studies for consideration for inclusion on the website at contact@dmurs.ie.

Workshop / Training

Although concluded the recent Spring/Summer online seminars on DMURS have all been recorded and these along with presentation slides are available online for practitioners and Designers.

Further interactive workshops are being developed for later this year as well as a Graduate Certificate Course in Urban Road and Street Design which is being organised in conjunction with Atlantic Technological University (ATU, formerly IT Sligo).

Should you or your Organisation have any queries please email dmurs@transport.gov.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Dominic Mullaney,
Principal Advisor (Roads)
Department of Transport

CC: - The Director of Services/Senior Engineer for Roads/Transport/Infrastructure for each City & County Council.