

Wednesday 6th May 2009

RSA Urge Care on Placement of Campaign Posters

With Local and European elections approaching, the Road Safety Authority (RSA) is today Wednesday 6th May 2009, reminding campaign workers of the need to take care when positioning election posters at the road side.

Campaign posters should not be placed in a manner which obscures road signs, particularly those that relate to safety. These would include;

- **Regulatory traffic signs.** These signs show a road regulation is in place and must be obeyed by road users. They are generally circular and have a red border and black symbols or letters on a white background and include Speed Limit and Stop signs. Regulatory signs can also be blue and white such as mandatory signs at junctions.
- **Warning traffic signs.** These signs warn road users of a hazard ahead. They are diamond or rectangular in shape and have a black border and black symbols or letters on a yellow background.
- **Warning signs for road works** and
- **Information signs** giving directions.

Not only is it dangerous to obscure a road traffic sign it is also an offence to erect any sign or notice that makes a traffic sign less visible to road users (Road Traffic Act 1961, Section 95, Subsection 14).

“The signage on our roads, whether put there by the National Roads Authority, Local Authorities, the Gardaí or construction and road repair teams, are there to ensure the safety of motorists and all road users,” explained Noel Brett, Chief Executive, RSA. “I would therefore urge campaign workers to exercise care and common sense when putting up election posters. It is vital that no action is taken that either obscures road signage or distracts road users from their content.”

Local Authorities are also advised under the Traffic Signs Manual issued by the Department of Transport that action should be taken to deal with any obstructions to the clear visibility of signs.

ENDS

For further information contact:

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