

ULTRA ACCESS

Scaffolding Safety Alert: "Scaffolding" Lorries

And how to "set up" your loading/unloading operations safely

Scenario:

You're in a **"mobile gang"**, travelling from the Yard to the Place of Works in a **Scaffolding Lorry**.

You've just arrived outside the project / site / property you're about to begin work on...
... what do you do first?

PPE should be equipped as soon as you exit the vehicle. (3 points at the minimum) which should be Hard Hat, Safety Boots and "Hi-Viz" Clothing, but of course, one should ALWAYS consult their employing companies **RAMS** (Risk Assessment / Method Statement) before taking the advice of **ULTRA ACCESS** - because ultimately you work for them, under their rules.



Then, we recommend that the vehicle you travelled-in should be checked, (just a quick spot check for any external damage that might have been caused on the journey) - as an add-on to the mandatory "Daily Vehicle Checks" that the driver of said vehicle should have carried out that morning in the Yard **BY LAW** before setting off the day - as per the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 and the Road Traffic Act 1988 says.

Now its time to start making the surrounding area safe to begin the loading/unloading operations... and the room allowed for at the rear of the vehicle (and the sides within reason) should be sufficient for the materials to be easily added/removed. Including various types of safety measures deployed, like **Cones** and **Barriers** which should be strategically placed to highlight to others (Contractors or Members of the Public alike) that caution should be taken when working, standing or moving around where the loading/unloading works are taking place. As highlighted below:



*Image used from previous NASC Safety Bulletin, owned by NASC

X Denotes the amount of room that should be allowed for, **to be kept clear at all times at the rear** of the vehicle... the distance should be AS LONG as the longest material carried by said vehicle - for safe loading/unloading operations.

"Duty of Care" for others whilst carrying out your works is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**, no one else's, so where you can some kind of clearly defined demarcation / exclusion zone should be added and safety signs would be a nice addition to your "set up" too, if you are able to use them. **Keep yourselves right, to avoid any safety or legal issues later on.**