



# FPS BRIEFING NOTE

## SAFER DELIVERIES TO FARMS

Delivering fuel oil to a farm can introduce some additional risks not normally encountered in routine domestic and commercial deliveries. By being aware of these, and working in co-operation with the farmer to eliminate or minimise them, it should be possible to reduce the incidence of accidents and spillages associated with farm deliveries. The following chart provides suggested actions for the delivery driver and proposed recommendations to the site operator to address some of the known risks encountered when delivering fuel oil to farm premises.

<u>HAZARD</u>	<u>RISK</u>	<u>DELIVERY DRIVER ACTION</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION TO SITE OPERATOR</u>
<b>Arrival</b>	No-one available to accept delivery	Pre-arrange the delivery time and/or a contact signal on arrival	
	Closed gates adjoining the road	Park tanker safely without obstructing the highway	Recess gates to allow tanker to pull in off the road
	Locating the tank	Ask for directions before moving on	Provide clear directions, with a map if the route is complicated
<b>Negotiating the site</b>	Blind corners	Sound the horn and proceed cautiously	Provide fixed mirrors
	Overhead power lines &/or pipework	Be alert and ensure that the vehicle's height is known accurately	Mark distinctively and advise headroom
	Overgrown vegetation &/or overhanging branches	Proceed cautiously	Cut back verges, bushes and trees
	Parked or manoeuvring farm vehicles	Be alert and proceed cautiously Wear high-visibility clothing when out of the cab	Park vehicles away from access routes
	Uneven ground, rutted tracks, crumbling roadway, etc. Hidden dangers e.g. soft ground, unfenced slurry pits	Seek operator's advice, be alert and proceed cautiously	Maintain roadway surfaces Fence in &/or mark dangers conspicuously
	Reversing	Proceed cautiously using all available aids i.e. bleeper/horn, mirrors, banksman, CCTV, etc.	Assist if necessary, ensure children, animals and/or workers cannot pass behind the reversing vehicle
	Unsupervised children and/or animals	Be alert and proceed cautiously	Restrict the movements of children and animals during a delivery

<b>Tank area</b>	Poorly lit	Deliver only in daylight Wear high-visibility clothing when out of the cab	Improve lighting or take deliveries only in daylight
	No hard standing for a tanker	Do not park if in any doubt about the supporting surface	Provide a stable surface in proximity to the tank
	Access to tank obstructed	Request offending items to be relocated	Keep access clear
	Surroundings uneven, messy &/or slippery	Be alert for possible slipping or tripping hazards and proceed cautiously	Keep area surface level, clean and, if possible, dry
	Animal waste products present	Avoid contact, but wash thoroughly if contact is made accidentally	Keep tank area clean and free of animal droppings. Provide an adequate washing facility in case of accidental contact
	Proximity to moving machinery	Be alert for possible dangers and proceed cautiously	Site oil storage tanks away from moving machinery or stop it during a delivery
	Children &/or animals present	Be alert for possible dangers and proceed cautiously, do not allow children to play on or near the vehicle	Restrict the movements of children and animals during a delivery

<b>Oil storage facility</b>	Tank(s) not identified clearly	Confirm correct tank before proceeding	Label each tank clearly with fuel grade and capacity
	Tank leaking	<b>DO NOT DELIVER</b>	Replace or repair tank
	Tank condition poor	Fill only to a safe level, or not at all	Remedy identified defects
	Tank inadequately supported	Report defects to site operator and to depot manager	Improve supporting structure to prevent lateral movement &/or collapse [considering mass of tank + fuel]
	No spillage catchment	Report deficiency to site operator and to depot manager	Provide 'drip' tray or a bund [Regulations may apply]
	Fill point access difficult or above 2m	Use only well-secured, safe and appropriate means of access, do not climb or balance on nearby structures	Consider providing a low-level or remote fill point (and gauge) or install secure aids to assist with safe access
	Access involves ladder or climbing	Ensure that ladder or climbing aid provided is in good condition, well supported and does not involve over-reaching	Check access aids regularly and maintain them in a serviceable condition
	Oil level not clearly indicated	Fill only to a safe level Report deficiency to site operator and to depot manager	Maintain existing contents gauge in working order or fit a reliable remote gauge

**Other relevant FPS Publications include:**

**1] Guidelines for Safer Deliveries**

**2] Unsafe Delivery Point Report Forms**