

## Meeting Other Traffic

If whilst driving down the road you see an obstruction on the left hand side that you will need to overtake to make progress - but are prevented from doing so because of oncoming traffic - you need to adopt the following procedure:-

Once you have seen the obstruction make a good check into the interior mirror and right door mirror and act on what you see behind.

Reduce your speed progressively on approach and the oncoming vehicle may have time to pass the obstruction on your side of the road.

Remember - if you approach too slowly vehicles may overtake unnecessarily and if you approach too quickly you may not stop in time.

If you need to stop to allow the oncoming vehicle to come through the gap you must stop your car approximately 2 car lengths back from the obstruction.

If you stop too close behind the obstruction you will restrict your zone of vision and will need excessive steering when pulling away.

Position your car just far enough to the right of the parked vehicle to give you a good zone of vision down the road.

You need to secure the car as another vehicle may shunt you from behind and push you into the oncoming traffic.

Signal if necessary to warn or inform other road users of your intention to overtake when possible. At the appropriate time, when the oncoming traffic is approaching - select first gear, obtain the bite point and as the traffic is passing **quickly scan** from over your left shoulder to over your right shoulder, checking into your 3 mirrors on the way, **to ensure you are not hesitating**.

Release the handbrake and make progress.

In this second scenario the roles are reversed but it is still essential to check the interior mirror and left door mirror slow down and be prepared to move to the left and even stop, in case the oncoming vehicle continues to overtake the parked vehicle.

When travelling down the road the contours of the road may narrow due to parked cars. When this is the case, you may find yourself in a meeting situation:-

Check the interior mirror and left door mirror and continually scan to the left for a convenient gap to pull into to enable the oncoming traffic to make progress. Only pull into the gap as far as is necessary to allow the vehicle through.