

# Offsiding

## Chief Observer Seminar: What is offsidings?

It is the practice of moving to the offside of the road across either centre line markings or hazard line markings on the approach to a left hand bend where you do not have a view around the bend.

Generally when practised it is in an attempt to encourage the limit point of vision to match/open quicker and allow a greater speed of approach.

Issues often arise when a vehicle comes into view and your movement required to adopt a position of safety is sudden and often coarse.

The oncoming vehicle could react to your presence and this may cause a chain reaction behind it.

## **Chief Observer Seminar: What is not off-siding?**

Adopting a straight line through a series of bends where we have a clear view of the road and the road surface (road markings permitting) i.e.

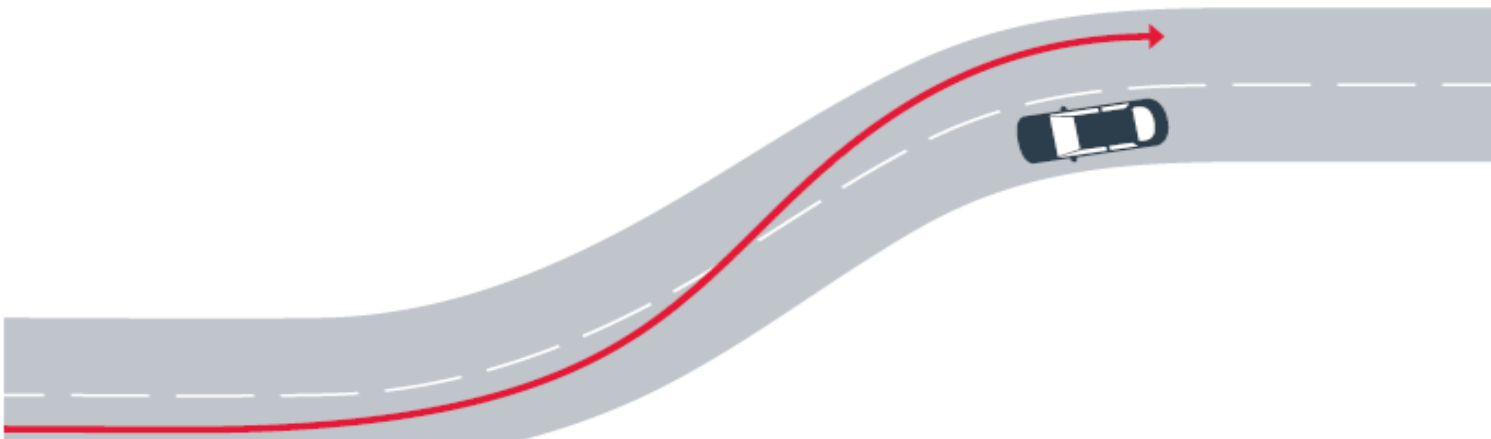
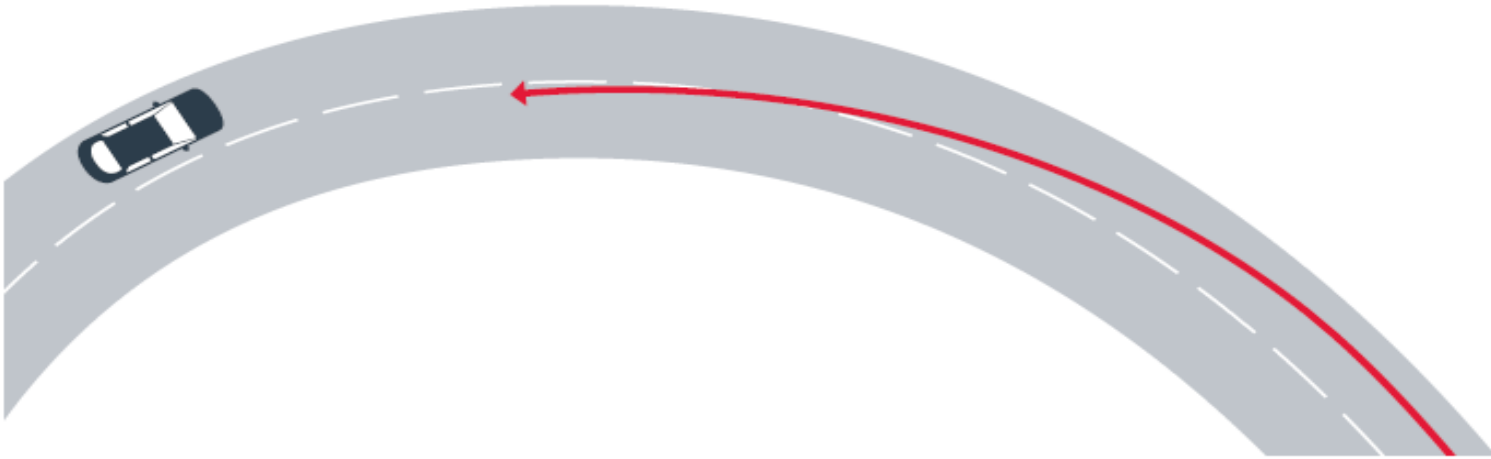
'The road is mine until the loss of vision in 400yds, my mirrors are clear so I am adopting a straight and stable course.'

Opening up the radius of a bend where vision is available of any potential oncoming traffic or other hazards on a generally open road.

Moving out to make a planned safe overtake and then finding yourself with a fantastic view which allows you to maintain your progress before returning to your own side of the road.

## Chief Observer Seminar: Off-siding, yes or no?

**Offsiding**



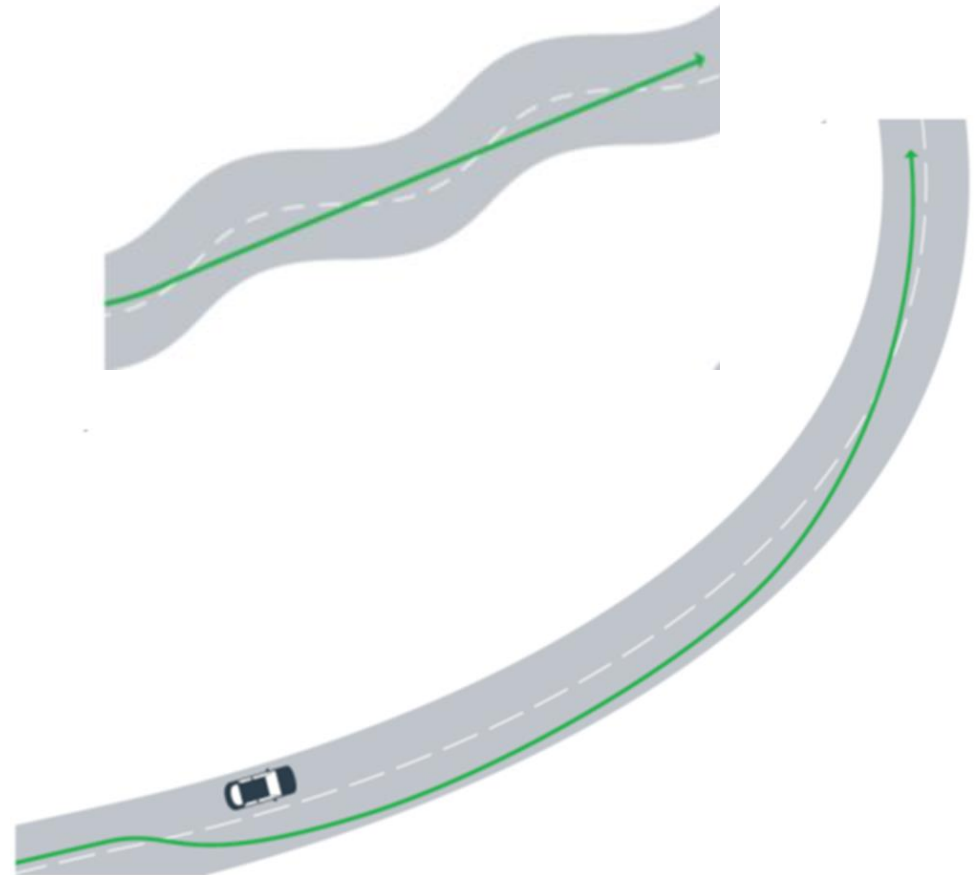
## Chief Observer Seminar: SLAP

Safe – is it safe to do so?  
Consider the view available and  
any hazards.

Legal – Is it legal to do it?  
Observe the road markings.

Advantageous – Does your  
position achieve an advantage for  
you?

Perception – What is the  
perception of other road users to  
your actions?



## Chief Observer Seminar: SLAP

- **SAFE** – is it safe to do so? Considering the view available and any hazards
- **LEGAL** – Is it legal to do it? Road markings.
- **ADVANTAGEOUS** – Does it actually achieve something?
- **PERCEPTION** – What is the perception of another road user of your actions?

## Chief Observer Seminar: Roadcraft and offside

At speeds within the posted limit the benefit of this extreme offside positioning is all but negated, even in Roadcraft, whose focus is on progress for emergency service drivers, the practice of off-siding is not mentioned or encouraged.

It advocates positioning towards the centre line, they encourage you to consider approaching traffic, your effect on others and whether there is any advantage.

This is all very much in sync with the IAM RoadSmart Advanced course material.

They finish by saying 'Don't position yourself in a way that causes concern to other road users.'

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Roadcraft 2020 – Page 194

# Thank you for attending our seminar

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