8.   VEHICLE CATEGORIES

Definition of Categories

8.1   The various components of traffic have different characteristics in terms of operating costs, growth and occupancy. Figure 8/1 illustrates the most common categories into which the traffic is split in COBA. These are defined as:

Cars	**(CARS)** including taxis, estate cars, 'people carriers' and other passenger vehicles (for example, minibuses and camper vans) with a gross vehicle weight of less than 3.5 tonnes, normally ones which can accommodate not more than 15 seats. Three-wheeled cars, motor invalid carriages, Land Rovers, Range Rovers and Jeeps and smaller ambulances are included. Cars towing caravans or trailers are counted as one vehicle unless included as a separate class (see User Specified Category below);
Light Goods Vehicles	**(LGV)** Includes all goods vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle weight (goods vehicles over 3.5 tonnes have sideguards fitted between axles), including those towing a trailer or caravan. This includes all car delivery vans and those of the next larger carrying capacity such as transit vans. Included here are small pickup vans, three-wheeled goods vehicles, milk floats and pedestrian controlled motor vehicles. Most of this group are delivery vans of one type or another;
Other Goods Vehicles	**(OGV 1)** Includes all rigid vehicles over 3.5 tonnes gross vehicle weight with two or three axles Includes larger ambulances, tractors (without trailers), road rollers for tarmac pressing, box vans and similar large vans. A two or three axle motor tractive unit without a trailer is also included;
	(OGV 2) Includes all rigid vehicles with four or more axles and all articulated vehicles. Also included in this class are OGV1 goods vehicles towing a caravan or trailer;
Buses and Coaches	**(PSV)** Includes all public service vehicles and works buses with a gross vehicle weight of 3.5 tonnes or more, usually vehicles with more than 16 seats;
User Specified	There is a facility within the program for the user to input an additional vehicle category, however its use will be a rare occurrence. It can only be used if the appropriate values of time, occupancy, vehicle operating costs and vehicle proportions by flow group are available for the input category. An example of its use could be to test the sensitivity of a high proportion of cars with trailers in the traffic mix.

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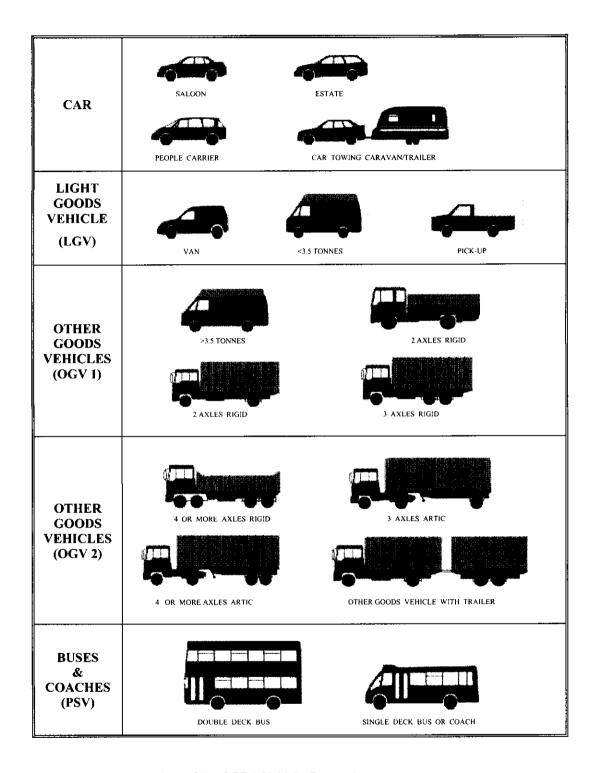| CAR	SALOON ESTATE PEOPLE CARRIER CAR TOWING CARAVAN/TRAILER
LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE (LGV)	VAN <3.5 TONNES PICK-UP
OTHER GOODS VEHICLES (OGV 1)	>3.5 TONNES 2 AXLES RIGID 2 AXLES RIGID 3 AXLES RIGID
OTHER GOODS VEHICLES (OGV 2)	4 OR MORE AXLES RIGID 3 AXLES ARTIC 4 OR MORE AXLES ARTIC OTHER GOODS VEHICLE WITH TRAILER
BUSES & COACHES (PSV)	DOUBLE DECK BUS SINGLE DECK BUS OR COACH

Figure 8/1: COBA Vehicle Categories

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