

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

DROPPED KERB ADVISORY DOCUMENT

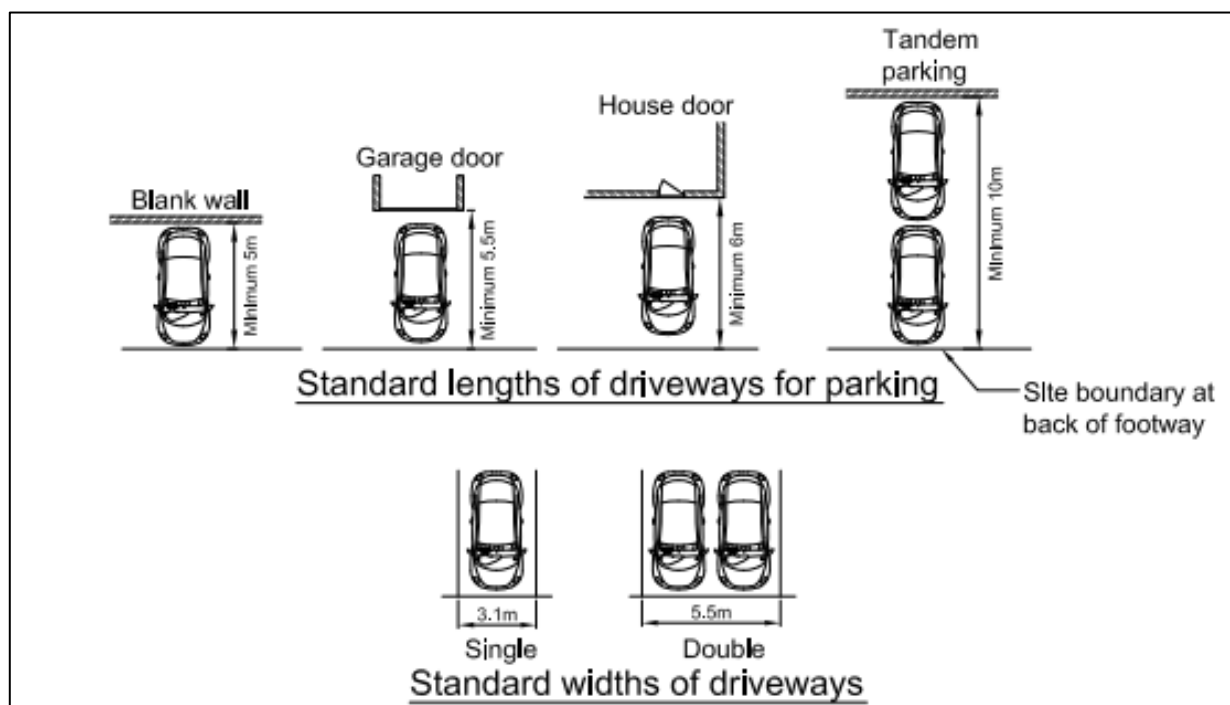
MAY 2024

1.0 Introduction

This document is to be published on the Trafford Council website to explain any further queries customers may have in relation to an application for, and approval of, vehicular access crossings (otherwise known as a dropped kerb).

2.0 Driveway dimensions

Before applying for a dropped kerb, you should ensure that the depths and widths of your driveway meet the below criteria.



3.0 Why applications may be rejected

Applications for a dropped kerb may be rejected for the following reasons:

- You do not have the required depth or width of driveway.
- Your property is on a bend or at a road junction.
- A tree covered by a TPO is outside your property.
- Your property is close to traffic signals.
- The gradient (steepness) of your driveway is too great.
- There is insufficient visibility to drive in and out of your property safely.

4.0 Contractors

Applicants can use another provider to construct a dropped kerb once an application has been approved by the Council. Contractors must [apply to the Council](#) for a licence to complete the work under Section 50 of the Street Works Act (1991).

The application must be accompanied by evidence that the contractor has:

- The required Street Works Accreditations.
- Proof of public liability insurance (with a minimum cover of £5million).
- Specification of the Installation.
- Statutory undertaker plant information / plans.

Applicants should NOT carry out the work themselves.

It is an offence for an individual or contractor to carry out any works on the footway without the Highway Authority's permission. Enforcement action will be taken against anyone carrying out unauthorised works.

5.0 Existing street furniture or lighting equipment

If the proposed position of a dropped kerb is obstructed by a lighting column, road sign or tree (or any other street furniture), the location may be altered to avoid the asset. However, if this is not possible, we may take the decision to move or remove the asset. However, the cost of this will have to be met by the applicant.

6.0 Existing statutory undertaker assets

If any existing statutory undertaker assets (such as stop taps, water meters or broadband equipment) is impacted an application, the cost for moving these will be met by the applicant.

7.0 Vehicle types

A vehicular crossing should not be used by heavy goods vehicles or mechanical vehicles. Any damage done to the footway if a crossing is used by an unsuitable vehicle will be the responsibility of the occupier of the property to repair.

8.0 Neighbour access

Where the occupiers of two adjoining properties share a driveway and wish to build a double width crossing to serve both properties, this is possible. One person should act as the applicant for both parties.

9.0 Boundary walls or fences

If an applicant removes more of a boundary wall or fence than is required to facilitate a dropped kerb, then a lighting column, item of street furniture or tree may be placed in the footway at this location by the Council. Statutory undertakers may also place equipment in the footway in this location.

10. Property ownership

If applicants do not own the property, then written permission to complete this work will be required from the landlord / landowner.

11. Dropped kerb ownership

Once a dropped kerb has been installed, it becomes part of the [adopted highway](#). Therefore, the Council are responsible for maintenance of the kerb following installation. The Council also reserves the right to alter dropped kerbs in the future following installation, usually (but not exclusively) to accommodate further dropped kerbs to neighbouring properties or to facilitate works on the adopted highway.

12. Gates

Following the completion of a dropped kerb, gates can be fitted across the entrance to driveways. However, gates must NOT open outwards across the footway or carriageway, in accordance with Section 153 of the Highways Act (1980).

13. Drainage / permeable materials

Applicants should ensure that any proposed driveway is constructed of permeable material, or that rainwater is directed to a lawn, or a drainage channel installed within the construction of the driveway. Further guidance is available [here](#).