

## Works on or adjacent to the Highway

### **Guidance for Contractors and Construction firms when working on or adjacent to the highway in the City of Manchester**

Observing these simple rules will help to reduce the detrimental effects to others, improve relations with neighbours and avoid possible legal action. Please inform all people working on the site about this guidance, including subcontractors:

- ✓ Consult with local residents/businesses prior to commencement of work and provide your contact details
- ✓ Keep the highway clear of mud and when necessary, use wheel washers for vehicles leaving a site. If mud is tracked onto the highway, ensure that it is removed as quickly as possible. It may be necessary to use a mechanical sweeper for this operation
- ✓ Keep dust down when cutting materials such as concrete by spraying with water from time to time, especially during dry weather
- ✗ Do not allow vehicles to be driven over the footway without the provision of a constructed crossing
- ✗ Do not keep noisy plant and equipment running when they are not being used, especially if they are sited near to occupied premises
- ✗ Do not allow site access gates to open outwards over the highway
- ✗ Do not allow mud/cement slurry to be washed into highway drainage systems

### **General Requirements** **Damage to the highway**

#### ***Highways Act 1980, Section 131***

It is an offence if without lawful authority an excavation is made in the highway. An offence under this section may result in legal action and a fine.

#### ***Section 133***

If the highway is damaged as a result of an excavation or other work on or adjacent to it, the highway authority may make good the damage caused and recover the expenses reasonably incurred in doing so.

### **Works on the highway**

#### ***New Roads & Street Works Act 1991, Section 51***

Any person requiring placing private apparatus in the highway must be in receipt of a street works licence. If a person places any apparatus without approval, the highway authority may remove it and recharge the reasonable costs of this work.

#### ***Section 67***

It is the responsibility of a person undertaking any street works in the highway to have the prescribed qualifications for such works. An offence under this section may result in legal action and a fine.

#### ***Section 124***

Any person carrying out work in the highway must secure that work by adequately signing, guarding and lighting it. The measures to be taken to ensure the works have been adequately signed, guarded and lit can be found in the code of practice "Safety at Street Works and Road Works" again, an offence under this section may result in legal action and a fine.

### **Noise Pollution**

It is important that noise is kept down to the minimum levels possible at all times. For further details and advice contact the Public Protection team on 0161 234 5004.

## Working hours

Generally the permitted hours for works undertaken on the highway are as follows:

<b>Monday to Friday</b>	<b>07.30 - 23.00</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>08.30 - 23.00*</b>
<b>Sundays &amp; Bank Holidays</b>	<b>09.30 - 23.00*</b>

\*no noisy work to be carried out after 22.30. Please note that due to local conditions these times may vary.

## Temporary road closures

Should it be necessary to close a road to enable works to be undertaken please be aware that it will take approximately 4-6 weeks from the receipt of payment to implement the order.

If a road needs to be closed traffic will normally need to be diverted. If you need assistance in drawing up a diversion plan we can provide this service for you.

## Permits/Licenses

The following require permits to be issued before any works can commence:

- Opening up the highway (excavation)
- Scaffolding
- Hoarding
- Skips (please note skips cannot be dropped in the city centre except for 'wait & load')

The following require licenses being issued before any building works are commenced or any equipment/apparatus is placed on or in the highway:

- Building under the highway
- Projection over the highway
- Private apparatus in the highway
- Private equipment on the highway

For general advice on any of the above items and their associated costs, please contact Environment on Call: 0161 234 5004.

### Manchester City Council Contacts:

- General number for all departments: 0161 234 5000
- Public Protection, Parking Services, Environment on Call (highways, street cleansing and refuse collection), Contaminated Land & Asbestos enquiries: 0161 234 5004
- Commercial Skip Hire: 0161 957 8306
- Building Control/Building Inspectors/Dangerous Buildings/Building Surveyor & Demolition Group (permission to demolish): 0161 234 4490
- Planning Department (general enquiries): 0161 234 4516

### Other Useful Contacts:

- Greater Manchester Fire Service (general enquiries): 0161 736 5866
- Police (general enquiries – non urgent): 0161 872 5050
- Health and Safety Executive: 0161 952 8200
- Environment Agency (general enquiries): 08708 506 506
- British Standards Institute: 0208 996 7111

### Web Addresses:

- Manchester City Council [www.manchester.gov.uk](http://www.manchester.gov.uk)  
(a full A-Z of Council Services is available on this site)
- UK Government Site [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)
- Environment Agency [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)
- Health and Safety Executive [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)

---

Please feel free to contact us if you require further advice or information:

Manchester City Council, Public Protection, Environment on Call, PO Box 204, Manchester. M12 5WL or telephone: 0161 234 5004, Fax: 0161 274 7245 Email: [envhealth@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:envhealth@manchester.gov.uk)