



Street Furniture (Above Ground Equipment)

GR2016-02



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ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:

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APPLICANT APPARATUS (ABOVE GROUND)

1. General Conditions

1.1. Introduction

Traffic & Highway Services forms part of **The Office of the Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure** and is tasked to undertake highway maintenance, inspection of highway works and to execute the statutory requirements contained in the 1958 Public Thoroughfares (Guernsey) Law. As part of its role, it is responsible for giving permission for the location of street furniture in the public highway.

1.2. Purpose of Specification

This document sets out the conditions for placing street furniture within the public highway, at least part of which will be above ground level. Such apparatus includes telecoms poles, pole mounted signs, bollards, permanent shelters, distribution cabinets, supply pillars and other such apparatus but excludes suspended cables between structures.

This document is to be considered part of **Traffic and Highway Services'** conditions for undertaking works in the Public Highway by Utilities and others in accordance with the Public Thoroughfares (Guernsey) Law 1958.

Utilities and others may have certain rights in law to place street furniture within the public highway, subject to Traffic and Highway Services conditions.

1.3. Permissions & Notifications

Utilities do not need prior written permission to place street furniture, which is required for their network, in the public highway provided that:

- a) They have a statutory right to do so
- b) Prior notification is given to Traffic and Highway Services
- c) It is in accordance with the conditions within this document
- d) It is in accordance with the conditions contained in **GR2016-01** "Opening and Reinstatement of Guernsey Roads".
- e) It does not require planning permission.

If the apparatus requires planning permission, Traffic and Highway Services as owner, will need to authorise any planning application in accordance with the Land Planning and Development (Guernsey) Law 2005.

Traffic and Highway Services will not unreasonably refuse such authorisation, either where it can be shown to comply with our conditions or where Traffic and Highway Services believes it is in the overall public interest.

Traffic and Highway Services will also take into account the proposal's acceptability in terms of traffic management and its impact on road users.

The Applicant shall give 2 months' written notice to Traffic and Highway Services concerning the siting of any street furniture, prior to the start of any works. This notification will include:

- a) A plan showing location and construction details of the street furniture in question,
- b) Any correspondence with the former Traffic Services Unit at our Bulwer Avenue offices and

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- c) A justification for the siting of the street furniture within the highway.

If Traffic and Highway Services believes the siting does not comply with its conditions or the justification given is not acceptable or the former Traffic Services Unit is not supportive of the proposal, it will notify the Applicant that it will not be permitted to site the street furniture as proposed.

If Traffic and Highway Services does not give any notification within 28 days of acknowledgement of receipt of the request, it will be deemed to have granted permission.

The Applicant will not need Traffic and Highway Services' permission to replace street furniture on a like-for-like basis.

2. Apparatus Location

The priority order of locating any street furniture will be:

- a) Land Outside The Public Highway
- b) Roadside Verge
- c) Footway / Cycleway
- d) Carriageway

2.1. Land Outside The Public Highway

The applicant should first consider whether or not there is an area of land outside the public highway where the street furniture could be reasonably located.

An application to place any street furniture within the public highway, which includes footpaths and verges, will not be considered unless the Applicant can, as part of its application, provide evidence of one of the following:

- a) That there is no other suitable site,
- b) There are overriding engineering reasons
- c) It would not comply with current Planning law or Traffic Management regulations
- d) That there are Land Planning and/or Building Control reasons for siting it elsewhere
- e) There is a conflict with Planning policy on, for example, conservation areas or visual amenity
- f) That the Applicant is unable to come to a reasonable agreement with the owner of any other land in order to site the street furniture outside the public highway.

2.2. Roadside Verge

If there is no suitable land available outside the public highway, but there is an option to place the street furniture in a roadside verge, this is preferable to siting it within either the footway or carriageway provided that;

- a) It does not have an adverse effect on any nearby trees,
- b) It does not have an impact on the visibility obtained from a property access or road junctions,
- c) It is not between the footpath and the road,
- d) It complies with current Land Planning and Building Control law.

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- e) There is no conflict with Planning policy on, for example, conservation areas or visual amenity

2.3. Footways / Cycle ways

If there is no suitable roadside verge available, but there is an option to place the street furniture in the footway, this is preferable to siting it within the carriageway unless;

- a) The footway would be unduly restricted, leaving less than 1.2m width or 2.0m for combined footway / cycleway,
- b) It is located in a high pedestrian footfall area, such as shopping areas or around schools.
- c) It has an impact on the visibility obtained from a property access or road junctions.
- d) There are Land Planning and/or Building Control reasons for siting it elsewhere.

Please note that accommodation works may be required to widen the footway to ensure it is not unduly restricted, subject to Traffic and Highway Services' approval.

2.4. Carriageway

Where there is no other acceptable option, it may be permissible to place the street furniture in the carriageway unless it will have an adverse effect on;

- a) road safety
- b) surface water drainage
- c) future maintenance of the public highway
- d) the visibility obtained from a property access or road junctions and
- e) provided that it conforms to any Land Planning and Building Control policies which are applicable.

Please note that accommodation works may be required for works in the carriageway.

3. Other Considerations

3.1. Access to Existing Services

Where existing services are likely to be impacted upon, consultation must be undertaken with the relevant Utility. Reasonable access to any pre-existing services must be maintained wherever practicable. However, in some circumstances, it may be necessary to divert existing services.

Where reasonable access to pre-existing services has been maintained or consultation has been undertaken, any costs relating to access, including damage to any street furniture, will be the responsibility of the Utility undertaking the works to access their equipment.

3.2. Highway Maintenance

To ensure highway maintenance can be undertaken in areas within and around any street furniture, the siting and choice of material should be selected carefully.

Enclosed structures, such as bus shelters, where it would not be possible to lay or compact an asphalt surface as part of future maintenance of the public highway, would not be permitted unless an alternative surface material is chosen. Any internal surface is considered part of the street furniture and the responsibility of its owner.

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Any alternative surface material should either be capable of being maintained or be maintenance free for the life of the street furniture.

Street Furniture which may restrict access, such as distribution cabinets and pillars, will not be permitted if it would make areas of the highway inaccessible for maintenance.

3.3. Street Clutter

Street furniture should be grouped in order to minimise the number of obstructions that are placed in the public highway. Where equipment is to be mounted above ground, consideration should be given to mounting it on existing poles or other structures, subject to the agreement of the owner, rather than providing new supports.

3.4. Redundant Street Furniture

Where street furniture is removed, any bases should also be removed and the highway surface reinstated to match the adjacent surfaces so that it is free of tripping hazards or standing water.

3.5. Collision / Damage

Any equipment should be sited to avoid collisions. Minimum clearance heights (apart from traffic management equipment) should be 2.44m (8ft) where no vehicles are likely and 3.66m (12ft) where vehicles are likely, in accordance with standard hedge cutting requirements. Where high sided vehicles are likely, this should be increased to 5.7m and, where possible, at least 0.5m back from the road edge.

4. Contravention of Conditions

4.1. With Permission

If Traffic and Highway Services has given permission or is deemed to have given permission but the apparatus does not conform to Traffic and Highway Services conditions, all reasonable measures will be taken by the Applicant to comply with the conditions.

4.2. Without Permission

If the Applicant has placed apparatus in the highway without permission, the Applicant will be required to remove that apparatus at the Applicant's expense.