

# H Bar Policy

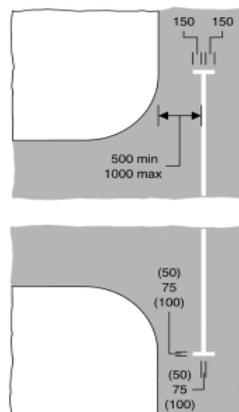


## Road Markings for Vehicular Crossings (Commonly known as H Bar Markings)

### What is an 'H' Bar Road Marking?

It is an elongated white 'H' which is sited across a vehicular crossing.

The access line is white and normally 75mm wide and extends across the dropped kerbs from where each starts to drop down to the road surface.



### Can they be legally enforced?

The purpose of an 'H' Bar marking is to provide a reminder that parking across a dropped kerb driveway causes an obstruction to people wishing to access or leave a property by vehicle. Creating such an obstruction on the public highway is an offence and the Police or Central Bedfordshire Council's Civil Enforcement Team can issue fixed penalty notices. You should be aware that the Police may not place enforcement of parking obstructions high in their priorities compared with other crimes.

### Can I park across an 'H' Bar marking provided outside of my own driveway?

The marking is provided solely to highlight the presence of your driveway to others who are looking to park on the street. If you park in the 'H' Bar marking across your driveway, then it devalues the meaning of the marking. It may also show to other drivers that you do not need access to your driveway. You could of course also be issued with a fixed penalty notice.

## **What can we do?**

We recognise that 'H' Bar markings can be useful where on-street parking causes regular and persistent obstruction to a properly constructed vehicular crossing.

For us to consider and approve your application, you will need to provide:

- Physical evidence through photographs of vehicles continually obstructing vehicle access crossing.
- Physical evidence through photographs of visibility problems for vehicles exiting property.
- Physical evidence through photographs of commuter parking.
- Where a gap between two driveways is not sufficient to allow on-street parking without causing an obstruction, then the marking will need to be installed across both driveways. If this is the case you must get the agreement of your neighbour in question.

Please note that we will give special consideration to registered Blue Badge holders.

## **What we cannot do?**

- We will not consider the installation of 'H' Bar markings across private driveways where it may not be obvious that vehicle access is required and inconsiderate parking occurs.
- If your access opens on to double yellow lining or white zigzag markings, then it is not possible to install 'H' Bar markings.
- The marking cannot be sited on the opposite side of the road to the driveway to make turning movements easier.
- You must have a properly constructed driveway on to the road. This means a tarmacadam construction across the verge and or footpath, together with proper dropper or quadrant kerbs either side of the driveway and dropped kerbs across the entrance. If you do not have such a driveway, then we can provide one for you at an additional charge. Please follow this link for more information <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/highways/Roads-access/default.aspx>

## **What you need to do to apply for an 'H' Bar marking?**

You will need to apply for an 'H' Bar marking using the attached application form, and you will need to pay in advance a sum of £60.70 which will cover our costs of inspecting the location and us agreeing or otherwise the application with you. If your application is not subsequently agreed then you will not be reimbursed this charge. You should therefore seriously consider whether an 'H' Bar marking is really necessary, also that you have fully considered the information above.

If your application is approved then you will also be required to pay in advance a sum of £60 which will cover the full cost of installation.

## **What happens when your application is approved?**

We will install the 'H' Bar marking as soon as possible after your application is approved and your payment has been received.

To utilise resources and lining budgets new 'H' markings will only be installed when other road marking works are planned to take place in the same locality and hence a short delay may occur between accepting your application and the 'H' Bar being installed.

You should also be aware that during the winter months October to April, there may be delays due to daytime temperatures being too low for painting white lining.

When the 'H' Bar marking is in place, it will be maintained by Bedfordshire Highways and will be repainted at the same time as other road markings in your road.