

# DOMESTIC VEHICLE CROSSING

Conditions of construction and use



The following is a list of conditions relevant to the construction and use of a Domestic Vehicle Crossing:

1. Applications to install a Domestic Vehicle Crossing will only be accepted from the owner of the property or with written permission from the owner of the property.
2. If a property is, or was owned by Plymouth Community Homes or Plymouth City Council, written permission to park a vehicle in the front garden is required before an application for a Domestic Vehicle Crossing can be considered.
3. The location of a Domestic Vehicle Crossing on any unclassified road must be more than 10m away from a junction or roundabout.
4. The location of a Domestic Vehicle Crossing on any classified road must be more than 15m away from a junction or roundabout.
5. Planning Permission must be obtained before Plymouth Highways can give approval if a vehicle crossing falls within any of the following criteria:
  - the property involved has the frontage directly onto a classified road
  - the property involved is a listed building or within a conservation area
  - the property involved is other than a house for a single family, e.g. flat, maisonette, commercial or industrial premises
  - engineering works are required for its construction by a build up of 0.5 metres or by reducing levels by 1 metre
6. A hard standing (parking area) must be a minimum of 4.8m long, measuring from the front of your house to the boundary of your property, and a minimum of 2.7m wide.
7. No part of a vehicle parked within your property may project onto or over the highway.
8. A hard standing should ideally be constructed of permeable materials. If non permeable materials are used, with planning permission, suitable drainage must be installed.
9. If a hard standing is made of gravel or a similar loose material concrete or blacktop should be laid in a 1 metre strip from the boundary of the property to the start of the gravelled area.
10. If any hard standing material is carried onto the highway it will be the responsibility of the occupier to remove it by sweeping etc.
11. The hard standing must be built so that water does not drain from it across the footway. Suitable drainage, approved by the Planning Department, must be provided within the boundary of the property.
12. Any gates accessing a property/hard standing will not open outwards onto the highway.
13. The width of a single property Domestic Vehicle Crossing must be between 2.7m and 4.8m wide.
14. A Domestic Vehicle Crossing that is shared by two neighbours will not exceed the maximum width of 5.6m and will not extend across the whole frontage of both properties.

15. Any Domestic Vehicle Crossing will be a minimum of 6m distance from any adjacent vehicle crossing or service lane.
16. The surrounding area of a proposed crossing must be free of any obstruction to access or visibility.
17. If the proposed position of a Domestic Vehicle Crossing is obstructed by street furniture, a tree etc. the location of the crossing should be altered to avoid the obstacle. If this is not feasible, the item should be removed or relocated at the applicant's expense.
18. If a statutory authority is required to carry out work by relocating a fire hydrant, telegraph pole etc. any charges for such work will be the responsibility of the applicant. The applicant will be required to produce written proof of approval from the statutory authority before a Domestic Vehicle Crossing can be approved and built.
19. The immediate area of a proposed Domestic Vehicle Crossing must be free of any pedestrian crossings, disabled bays, resident parking zones or pay and display bays.
20. The applicant must ensure that adequate sight lines are maintained after the construction of the Domestic Vehicle Crossing, to allow continued safe access to their property.
21. No part of a Domestic Vehicle Crossing may be used as a parking area.
22. A Domestic Vehicle Crossing must be constructed to Plymouth Highways specifications, which includes a suitably dropped kerb.
23. The standard finish to a Domestic Vehicle Crossing must be either blacktop or concrete – to be decided by Plymouth Highways.
24. A Domestic Vehicle Crossing may only be used by a private light goods or similar vehicle.
25. A Domestic Vehicle Crossing must not be used by heavy goods vehicles, commercial vehicles or mechanical equipment.
26. If any damage to the highway is caused by improper use of the Domestic Vehicle Crossing, by either the occupier or a third party, any repairs will be the financial responsibility of the occupier.
27. If any dimension requirements for a Domestic Vehicle Crossing (including the hard standing) are not met, a Highways Inspector may carry out a site inspection to consider approval. The Highways Inspector's decision as to whether the application will be approved or refused is final. This decision is dependant on any necessary planning approval being granted in writing.
28. Any application for the construction of a Domestic Vehicle Crossing may be refused or modified on the grounds of safety.
29. At any time Plymouth Highways may install an item of street furniture, tree etc. outside the area of the Domestic Vehicle Crossing. This can occur even where an applicant has removed more of a wall, fence or hedge running along the boundary than is required by the size of the crossing.
30. Plymouth Highways reserves the right to alter the layout of a Domestic Vehicle Crossing at any time, due to modifications in the footway or verge. All effort will be made to maintain access to the property.
31. It should be noted that any approval granted may be subject to conditions imposed by Plymouth Highways in accordance with the attached guidance notes.