



Why did the Pedestrian cross the road?

Footway Closure

There is an implicit hierarchy for footway work within the Safety at Street Works and Road Works Code of Practice (Red Book) giving the order in which you should consider the options. The safety code says that you **should always** try to enable pedestrians to remain on the footway and that the remaining width available to them should ideally be a minimum of 1.5m.

With this in mind the code identifies a number of factors that should be considered in deciding the appropriate method for guiding pedestrians past the site. When working on the footway you will be required to leave an **ABSOLUTE** minimum of **1.0m** unobstructed width, if this cannot be achieved then you must consider alternatives. The basic rule is that you must **not** choose to close a footway **without good reason** or **without informing the Highway Authority**.

DO's & DON'Ts

- **DO** Consider **all alternatives** before you consider closing the footway
- **DO** Make sure you walk all alternative routes
- **DO** Ensure footway closure has been notified to the Highways Authority
- **DO** Talk to your Streetworks Team to get any permit changed to reflect Closure
- **DO** Erect **Footway Ahead Closed** Signs A suitable location (adjacent to existing crossing point **OR** minimum of **20m** in advance of closure)
- **DO** Erect **Footway Closed** signs at the obstruction?
- **DO** Consider visibility for adults, children, wheelchair users and partially sighted
- **DO** Consider
 - Rush hour traffic flows
 - School run parking
 - Pub/club licensing hours
 - One off events
 - Match days at sports grounds
- **DO** Risk assess the situation and if you cannot adhere to the above you **MUST** seek advice from your immediate line manager
- **DON'T** Start work until you have completed a **SITE-SPECIFIC** risk assessment
- **DON'T Under any circumstances** commence excavations on opposite side of road to the Footway closure.
- **DON'T** Erect a sign stating **Pedestrians Please Use Other Footway**
- **DON'T** Close any footway without seeking permission from your immediate line manager
- **DON'T** Close a footway without checking your permit or getting it changed
- **DON'T** Send pedestrians over grass verges without mats
- **DON'T** Leave site without making sure that the correct SLG is in place



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