

# Access Protection Markings (APM's)



## Introduction

Access Protection Markings (APM's) are white 'H' shaped lines painted onto the road, in front of an access to a property that highlight dropped kerbs to other road users and are particularly useful where visibility is limited.

## How can an APM help?

### Accessibility

It helps to highlight accesses and prevent obstruction (although it is not enforceable).

### Road Safety

It helps to deter hazardous and obstructive parking.

### Cost

The Initial Charge and each subsequent renewal application costs £197.83. This charge covers both the application process and cost associated with the markings being installed. A new application is required for future refresh requests. The charge is based on standard markings up to 5 metres in length. Additional costs will apply where longer protection markings are required.

### Maintenance

Any newly approved APM will be installed during one of the Council's routine lining operations. You should allow up to 8 weeks after making payment for the markings to be completed. The cost will cover the application and installation of the APM.

When the APM has faded, a new application will need to be made. This will allow the application to be reconsidered and approved if the APM is still required. The current fee is payable during each renewal application and covers the cost for the application and reapplication of the lining.

### Legal Issues

Milton Keynes Council cannot enforce an obstruction so please consider this when making application. Access protection markings are advisory markings only as there are no legal traffic orders to enforce them.

However, blocking an access, whether there is a line there or not, is classed as obstruction and the police may issue a fixed penalty notice for this.

Where access to properties is concerned, it is only legally classed as obstruction if a vehicle is prevented from exiting a driveway. However, the police may decide to act on any situation concerning access obstruction.

## Provision of APMs

The Council has seen a considerable increase in the number of requests for APM's and, whilst they have proved relatively successful in deterring obstructive parking, they are only advisory and their increased use has resulted in frequent reports of them being ignored by motorists.

Access Protection Markings will only be considered at sites where the access is not obvious to drivers e.g. a concealed entrance. There must also be a proven problem of continuous obstruction.

If you feel your situation meets the criteria and you have supporting evidence of obstruction (e.g. timed and dated photographs) then please complete the online form.

Each application is considered strictly on its own merits and APMs will only be considered where there is;

- A legal dropped kerb at the property access
- And where there are no existing waiting restrictions (yellow lines).
- And where there is a conflict in parking needs, such as near to schools or shops
- And there is supporting evidence of previous obstruction

The Council will make a final discretionary decision based on the factors above, and site observations.

## Specifications

An Access protection marking is covered under the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 diagram no. 1026.1.

## Consultation

Only residents or landowners requesting an access protection marking will be informed of proposed action and decision.

## Highways Data Protection Privacy Statement

We collect and use information about you so that we can provide you with Highway services under the relevant legislation. Full details about how we use this data and the rights you have around this can be found at <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways-and-transport-hub/highways-privacy-notice>. If you have any data protection queries, please contact the Councils Data Protection Officer at [data.protection@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:data.protection@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

**Access Protection Markings (APM's)**  
Application Form



Your contact details

Your name	Your address	Your telephone number
		Your email address

Details of the property where the Access Protection Marking (APM) is required

Address of the property	Quote No.  (office use only)	
Name of the road on which the Access Protection Marking is requested		
The reasons that you are applying, including any specific or persistent problems.		

**Highways**

- Does the property have an existing APM? Yes / No
- If Yes, are you requesting an extension to this APM? Yes / No
- If Yes by how much ? (i.e. number of kerbs/measurement) .....
- Are there any parking restrictions / markings on the road outside the property ? Yes / No
- Is the requested location of the APM within 10 metres of either a junction and /or roundabout ? Yes / No
- Is there a dropped kerb at the location?** Yes / No

Does the dropped kerb provide access to a drive way or hard standing on which to park a vehicle

Yes / No

*Note that from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 any property proposing to construct a hardstanding within its boundary could require planning permission. If you are proposing to construct a new hardstanding you will need to contact Planning Enquiries on 01908 252358 for advice.*

**Planning**

Are you applying for a vehicle access as a result of an existing Planning application?

Yes / No

If Yes please enclose a copy of drawings including any Conditions and enter your Planning Ref No. here

In order to enable us to process your application, please draw a plan (view from above) to indicate the approximate location for the APM (including; the property, dropped kerb, footpaths and roads with road name clearly shown.

You will be contacted by telephone to make a payment of £197.83 once we have undertaken a site survey to determine whether we are able to provide Access Protection Markings at this location. **Please note that we are unable to accept cheques.**

Signed : .....

Date.....

Please Print Name : .....

**When you have completed this form please return to: Milton Keynes Council, Business & Liaison Team, Public Realm Service Group, Synergy Park, Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall, Milton Keynes, MK6 1LY [business.liaison@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:business.liaison@milton-keynes.gov.uk)**