



London Borough of Hounslow

Frequently asked questions

What is a White Bar Marking?

A White Bar Marking is a line of white paint that covers the length of a vehicular or pedestrian crossover. Where room is available this is extended up to a maximum of 900 mm either side of the crossover and its termination point is defined with a 'T'. If 900 mm is unavailable the line will terminate at an equal distance between neighbouring crossovers. Should extending the line 900mm means it will terminate outside a neighbouring property, then the line length will be reduced ensuring that it terminates at the boundary of the two properties.

What is its purpose?

The purpose of a White Bar Marking is to indicate the presence of a vehicular or pedestrian crossover to motorists wishing to park their vehicles in any particular area.

Is the marking enforceable?

A White Bar Marking is intended as a polite notice to motorists requesting that they do not park in a manner that obstructs or partially obstructs access to and from a property. Should you find your vehicular access blocked please report the obstructing vehicle by contacting the Council's Parking Section on 020 8583 5452. The service is available between 8.00am and 5.00pm. To report an obstructing vehicle out of these hours then the Police are the only authority able to take action. The offence is one of unnecessary obstruction and the existence of the white bar marking as recommended would assist the Police in making a prosecution.

Will the marking eliminate the problems I am having?

The Council can offer no guarantee that the existence of a White Bar Marking will reduce/eliminate vehicles blocking a particular access. Feedback received from residents who have requested these markings indicate they are generally effective, however due to the markings unenforceability the success is dependant upon the attitude of the motorist.

How much does the marking costs?

The cost of providing a White Bar Marking is £75.00 for a residential property and £150.00 for a commercial premise and is charged per access. It is Council policy for the marking to extend the whole length of the crossover and a crossover can extend in front of a neighbouring property. Should this be the case then written approval from the neighbouring property is required before proceeding with the works, along with an additional payment of £75.00 for each access.

When the marking has been implemented it becomes part of the public carriageway and the Council's responsibility. This means that as and when the marking begins to fade it will be refreshed at no extra cost. Additionally in the event of road resurfacing or excavation due to utility works, the Council will ensure that the marking is reinstated, again at no extra cost.

How long do I have to wait for it to be painted?

Once payment has been received a works order is raised with the Council's contractor on the same day. Works are normally completed within four weeks, however in periods of adverse weather conditions this can take longer.