

**STANDARD CONDITIONS FOR THE PLACING OF ITEMS AND SKIPS ON THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY  
SECTIONS 171, 139 AND 140 OF THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980**

**GENERAL**

1. An item shall not be placed on the highway without the prior written approval of the Highway Network Manager or their representative. To place an item on the highway without written permission is an offence under The Highways Act 1980 and may result in prosecution.
2. The item owner is responsible for ensuring that the item is positioned on the highway in such a way that it does not cause an obstruction to other road users. The item owner is responsible for ensuring that all appropriate legislation is adhered to.
3. The Applicant shall indemnify the County Council against any liability, loss, claim or proceeding arising under the statute or common law in respect of the placing, and maintaining or removal of an item on the highway.
4. The Applicant must have the minimum public liability insurance cover (£5 million), proof of which shall be required. The insurance must cover the full period that the item is situated on the highway. The Highway Authority must be notified immediately of any changes to or termination of a policy that may affect this insurance requirement. The Highway Authority is entitled to amend a permission in such instances and request the immediate removal of the item.
5. The Applicant shall allow at least five working days from receipt of an application for a licence to place an item on the highway and the date on which the licence is intended to commence.
6. The Applicant shall only deposit and remove an item on the public highway between the hours of 07.30 and 20.30 hours on all days unless specifically notified to the contrary within the additional special conditions applied to the permission.
7. Only one item will be allowed on site at any one time except in circumstances where consent has been granted by special condition.

**PLACEMENT AND POSITIONING OF ITEMS and SKIPS**

8. Any item or skip shall not be placed on the highway so as to impede the surface water drainage of the highway or to obstruct access to other premises, fire hydrants, gullies, manholes or any apparatus belonging to a Statutory Undertaker or to Staffordshire County Council.
9. The item owner is responsible for ensuring that the item is positioned on the highway in such a way that as well as its position, its use does not cause an obstruction to other road users. Where space is available, items shall be placed directly adjacent to the property requiring the use of the item to ensure that highway users are not obstructed by the associated actions in using the item.
10. An item or skip shall not partly or wholly obstruct a footway without the permission of the Highway Network Manager or their representative. If such permission has been granted, 1.2 metres unobstructed width must be available for pedestrians. If this is not available and the item or skip is still permitted under special condition, a 1.2metre wide pedestrian walkway must be signed and guarded to segregate pedestrians from traffic. This will be via the erection of pedestrian barriers of the continuous solid type, with continuous solid rails at 1.0 to 1.2 metres above ground level and a continuous solid rail with the lower edge at 150 mm above ground level, which will serve as a tapping rail for the partially sighted or blind. Barriers must be conspicuous. Barriers adjacent to a live traffic lane must be guarded by a line of traffic cones and lamped at night. Kerb ramps or raised footways must be provided to accommodate pushchairs, partially sighted and blind or infirm persons. Road warning signs in accordance with Chapter 8 will also be required.
11. A skip can only be placed on a carriageway where lit by street lights and with a maximum speed limit of 30mph. The skip shall be positioned with its longer sides parallel to and as near to the edge of the carriageway as possible. Items are not normally permitted on the carriageway but may under exceptional circumstances. In such an instance, full justification MUST be provided on the application form and if permitted, special conditions will be applied which must be adhered to.

12. Where a skip is permitted for placement on the carriageway, it shall be clearly visible to traffic approaching from either side at a distance of not less than 75 metres (250 feet) and as standard shall not be placed within 20 metres (75 feet) of a road junction. The Highway Authority may agree in exceptional circumstances to less than 20 metres but skips must NEVER be placed less than 10 metres from a junction.

13. Items and skips positioned on soft verges must be placed on suitable boards to prevent damage to the verge.

14. Only one item or skip will be allowed on site at any one time except in exceptional circumstances.

## **REMOVAL OF SKIPS**

15. No skip or item shall remain on the highway after the expiry of the licence. (If an extension is required, a fresh licence application must be made to the Highway Network Manager or their representative, two working days prior to the expiry of the existing licence).

16. Any skip or item shall be removed as soon as possible. Skips must be removed within two working days after it has been filled.

17. A skip or item must be removed or repositioned if required by the Police, the Highway Network Manager, or their representative.

18. On the expiry of the licence, the highway where the skip has been positioned must be left in a clean and tidy condition and any damage to the highway repaired to the satisfaction of the Highway Network Manager or their representative.

## **CONTENTS OF SKIPS / ITEMS**

19. No skip or item shall contain any inflammable, explosive, noxious, or dangerous material, which is likely to putrefy or become a nuisance to the users of the highway, and the contents of the skip or item shall be kept damp to prevent nuisance from dust.

20. A skip owner, placing a skip on the highway, is responsible for the removal and proper disposal of the materials placed in the skip, irrespective of who has used the skip.

21. The owner or supplier of an item placed on the highway is responsible for ensuring the item is at all times properly secure and that any waste arising from the item is correctly disposed, irrespective of who has used the item.

22. No skip or item shall be used in such a way that any of the contents fall on to the highway.

## **SPECIFICATION OF SKIPS**

23. The skip shall not exceed 5 metres (16'6") in length and 2 metres (6'6") in width.

24. The skip must be clearly and permanently marked on one of the longer sides (not the end) with the Applicant's name, address and telephone number.

25. The ends of the skips must be painted yellow and provided with vertical markings next to the side edges of the skip in accordance with the Builder's Skips (Markings) Regulations 1984 and all current relevant specifications.

## **LIGHTING AND CONING OF SKIPS**

26. A skip placed on the carriageway shall be protected by three cones positioned on the approaching side as shown in the diagram below.

27. An amber lamp shall be attached to each corner of the skip and, when the skip has been placed on the carriageway, lamps must also be placed between traffic cones in accordance with the diagram below. Lamps shall emit a constant light and shall comply with Section 43 of the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 1994. They shall remain lit throughout the hours of darkness (between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise). They shall be placed in such a manner as to not cause a nuisance to pedestrians or vehicular traffic.

Conviction of an offence under these Sections of the Highways Act 1980 renders the owner liable to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the Standard Scale of Fines.

**Minimum Standards for Guarding of the Skip**

