

DROPPED KERBS

A vehicle **dropped kerb** – also called a **dropped** crossing – is a section of pavement or verge built to allow access to a property.

There are 3 main kerbs as follows:

1. Full Kerb – see photo below, this is the normal kerb along the side of the road that means you need to step down (or up) when crossing the road



2. Drop Kerb – also known as a Flat Kerb (see drawing below), as its name suggests this is a kerb that is flat to the surface of the road & allows easier crossing for vehicles.
3. Splay Kerb - also known as a Taper Kerb (see drawing below), these go either side of the drop kerb

What is needed before a Dropped Kerb can be installed or extended?

A Section 184 Licence is required to install or extend a dropped kerb to a property.

This licence is issued by the Highways department of the local council. Applications typically take about a month to process and involve notifying those that have services (eg power, communications etc) that could be in the area (these are called Statutory Undertakings).

Abacus are happy to quote to manage this process for you, make the application and approach Statutory Undertakings, submit the various notices etc.

In order to submit the application the following key pieces of information are required:

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- The number of drop kerbs (or flat kerbs) & splays (or tapered kerbs). There are limits on the number of drop kerbs you can have, this is normally 4 drops & 2 splays as per the diagram below.



Layout of a typical single vehicle access crossing

- Site Plan – this can be a photograph, of the front of the property, marked on this photos (ideally in red) the proposed position of the dropped kerb
- Neighbouring property – there are regulations concerning the number of drop kerbs between properties. This is so that pedestrians are not constantly going up and down along a piece of pavement, which could be difficult for those with pushchairs or wheelchairs. If there are less than 3 full drop kerbs between neighbouring properties then the kerb between may have to also be dropped to form a continuous line of dropped kerbs.
- Junction close by? Again there is a requirement that the access must be more than 10M from a junction (15M on major road & busy junctions)
- Street Furniture/drains etc – these may have to be moved or changed to allow access
- Traffic Management – depending on the road situation it may be necessary for more formal traffic management to be used (eg traffic lights) or in some cases a road closure. If a road closure is necessary a Section 50 licence will need to be obtained (this can take several months and needs to be in place before the Section 184 can be applied for – there are additional costs associated with this).

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Kevin Wendt
Managing Director
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What do you need to do?

In order for Abacus to provide you with a quote for a drop kerb please supply the following photograph (these will be used in the event that the work is awarded to Abacus & you require us to apply for the Section 184 licence for you):

1. Standing across the road directly in front of the property– if you can indicate on the pavement where you would like the drop kerb to be situated (place something on the pavement, eg pair of cones, bag etc each side). Place the objects either end of where you would like the splay to start and finish – see drawing below of where to mark



2. Photo(s) of the boundary of property on both sides, showing clearly the existing kerbs, so that we can see how many full kerbs there are between the properties – this example we can clearly see the neighbour on the left but it's not so clear how the property joins on the right hand side (the other side of the garage)



This following photo shows the number of kerbs between neighbours.

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3. If there is any street furniture/drains/trees on the pavement etc please ensure they are shown in the photos



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