

GUIDANCE NOTES

SCAFFOLD ACTIVITY ON PUBLIC HIGHWAY

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT (INCLUDING HYPERLINKS) IS READ & UNDERSTOOD FULLY, BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION.

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1. Why do you need a Scaffold Specified Licence?

- It is a legal requirement to obtain permission from the Local Authority to erect load bearing (including tower) scaffold on the Public Highway.
- This permission is issued by way of a Specified Licence.
- To erect scaffold on the Public Highway without a licence is an offence and the offending company or person will be liable to prosecution.
- For additional information, regulations for scaffold upon Public Highway can be found in the Highways Act 1980 Section 169.

2. How much is a Scaffold Specified Licence?

2a. Specified Licence Costs

- Every Specified Licence Application in 2020/21 has a non-refundable £95 Application Fee which covers the admin costs involved in processing your application. See Table 1 below.
- The actual cost of the Specified Licence is represented in the ‘Fee on Approval’ column below.
- For works lasting 29 days and over, a Cash Bond is required which will cover any damage to the Highway and its assets (bollards, footway etc.) as a result of the activity.
- The Cash Bond is calculated by totalling the area of the Highway in use and the cost of replacing this area with original Highway material. This Cash Bond will be returned to you when you have confirmed to us that works have ended, and the Local Authority confirms the Highway and its assets are in an acceptable condition.
- The total cost of the process, totalling the Application Fee, the Specified Licence Fee and a Cash Bond (if applicable) is shown in the end column ‘Total Cost’.
- You will be invoiced separately for the Application Fee, the Specified Licence Fee and the Cash Bond if applicable.
- Note that invoices will be sent to the Principal Contractor **only**.

Table 1 - The Fee & Bond Structure for 2020/21

Duration & Contract Value	Application Fee	Fee on Approval	Bond Administration Fee	Cash Bond (Returnable)	Total Cost (Application Fee + Fee on Approval + Bond Administration Fee + Cash Bond if applicable)
Up to 28 days (Standard Works) (contract < £1m)	£95	£175	N/A	N/A	£270
29 days and over (Major Works) (contract < £1m)	£95	£410	£55	£TBC	£505 + £55 + Cash Bond
29 days and over (Major Works) (contract > £1m)	Within 0.15% of contract value	0.15% of contract value	£55	£TBC	0.15% of contract value + £55 + Cash Bond

2c. Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) - Road Closure Costs

- Road closure costs are processed and invoiced separately by the Local Engineer. For average road closure costs, see Table 2 below.
- Note that costs will vary depending on the complexity of the road closure.

Table 2 – Average Road Closure Costs for 2020/21

Duration	Average Road Closure Total Cost (Including Advertising Costs)
≤ 5 days	£1169
≥ 6 days	£2,774.10

3. When to apply for a Scaffold Specified Licence

- We require at least 21 (twenty-one) days to process a Standard Specified Licence which includes Scaffold only and no road closure/s.
- We may require more time depending on the complexity of the activity, if there is a road closure etc. and / or if it is a Major Works development (29 days and over).
- If your application requires a road closure and is 5 days or less, 40 business days' notice is required.
If the road closure is over 5 days and up to 18 months, 60 business days' notice is required.
For road closures that are over 18 months, timescales for processing may increase.
- Note that the road closure timescales **are additional** to the 21 days Specified Licence processing time.
- The project location will determine the restrictions that may be applied to your works e.g. start day/time etc. which in some cases may be Sunday work only.
- For some developments, the Local Authority will need to visit the site and/or discuss the application.
- **Ensure that your proposed start date allows for the timescales mentioned above.**
- Note that **until all required, correct and up to date documents have been received and confirmed by us, the 21 days processing time of your application will NOT BEGIN.**
- Note that if we do not have all the relevant documents or if they are out of date etc. and this does not allow us at least 21 days processing (longer if there is a road closure etc.), this **will have an impact on your proposed start date and you will be required to change it.**

4. What do I need to provide to get a Scaffold Specified Licence?

Note: Definition of a 'Specified Licence Activity' = The physical task being undertaken on the public highway (i.e. the type of Specified Licence you are applying for).

Note: All documents uploaded as PDF attachments on the 'Application Documents' page during the online Highways Licence Application process, must be clearly labelled using letters and numbers **only** e.g. Public Liability Insurance, TMP2.

Note: Any PDF attachments submitted with your application that contain characters other than letters/numbers will be rejected by the online system and will send you back to the start of the online Highways Licence Application process. This also applies to any attachments which may contain macros and/or are **not in** a PDF format.

Note: That **until all required, correct and up to date documents have been received and confirmed by us, the processing time of your application will NOT BEGIN.**

Note: The online Highways Licence Application process and all supporting documents must be completed **in full**. If your Standard/Major Works affect traffic (**including pedestrians**), please ensure traffic management documents are submitted to reflect this.

Note: That if we do not have all the relevant documents or if they are out of date etc. and this does not allow us at least the minimum processing time (longer if there is a road closure etc.), this **will have an impact on your proposed start date and you will be required to change it.**

4a. Application Guidance

- **Principal Contractor**

The applicant must apply through the Birmingham City Council website ([General Permit Request](#)), with the [Principal Contractor's](#) details and complete the online documents listed below.

- **Online Highways Licence Application**

This document is mandatory.

You can access this via the Birmingham City Council website [Specified Licences page](#).

The website application will take you through the process and will require you to upload further documents. Once the online application is submitted, it will automatically create an application form that will be sent to us for processing.

- **Temporary Traffic Management Plan with dimensions (TMP1 - Visual) (Appendix 1) (Traffic includes pedestrians)**

This document is mandatory and must be created and submitted by the applicant.

This Temporary Traffic Management Plan (Visual) is referred to as a TMP1 and must be uploaded as a PDF attachment on the 'Application Documents' page during the online Highways Licence Application process.

See **Appendix 1**, which shows an acceptable Traffic Management Plan (TMP1 - Visual) with dimensions.

The Temporary Traffic Management Plan (TMP1 - Visual) must demonstrate how your works will cause minimum inconvenience to road users and pedestrians.

The TMP1 must show the area of the Highway being taken up by the excavation, the area of the Highway being closed off, how traffic will be re-routed during your works and any accompanying dimensions (i.e. distance from the excavation to pedestrian walkway, distance from walkway to the Highway, appropriate signage, guarding, and lighting design).

- **Temporary Traffic Management Plan (TMP2 - Narrative)**

This document is mandatory.

You can access this via the Birmingham City Council website [Specified Licences page](#).

This Temporary Traffic Management Plan (Narrative) is referred to as a TMP2 form and must be downloaded separately, completed and then uploaded as a PDF attachment on the 'Application Documents' page during the online Highways Licence Application process.

When completing the TMP2, ensure that **only** the Principle Contractor's details are put in the 'Owner/Promoter of Proposals' part of the form.

Make sure that the start and end dates on the TMP2 link with the online Highways Licence Application start and end dates and take into consideration our **processing times**.

- **Location of Specified Licence Activity with Dimensions**

This document is mandatory and must be created and submitted by the applicant.

See **Appendix 2** which shows an acceptable plan denoting the Location of the Specified Licence Activity with Dimensions.

The plan must show the location of the activity in relation to existing buildings and the Highway/footway.

The plan must also show the area that will be taken up by the activity and the accompanying dimensions.

- **Risk Assessment (RA)**

This document is mandatory and must be created and submitted by the applicant.

The RA must identify potential hazards (i.e. falling objects, obstructions, plant, deliveries etc.) and the severity of the hazard (i.e. fatality, injury).

Further guidance can be found via the [HSE website](#).

- **Method Statement (MS)**

This document is mandatory and must be created and submitted by the applicant.

The MS must give details of how you propose to undertake the project on the Highway in a safe manner, including identifying how pedestrians will be managed during the activity.

Directing pedestrians to the opposite footway is not an acceptable method without suitable controls. If possible, consider an existing, controlled crossing point in proximity.

Further guidance can be found via the [HSE website](#).

- **Public Liability Insurance**

This certificate is mandatory and must be submitted by the applicant.

However, the Public Liability Insurance must be registered for the Principal Contractor **only**.

Public Liability Insurance must be in-date and cover the duration of your works.

Public Liability Insurance must be for a minimum of £5 million.

- **Accreditation – SWQR Card/s (Street Works Qualifications Register)**

This document is mandatory and must be created and submitted by the applicant.

We accept in-date SWQR Cards **only**.

We require details of a minimum of one supervisor (Advanced membership).

All SWQR Cards must be in-date and must show a copy of the front and back of the Card/s.

- **Traffic Management Road Closure Application**

This document is mandatory if a road closure is necessary.

You can access this via the Birmingham City Council website [Specified Licences page](#).

The form is being reviewed, however, in the meantime please note guidance within the document, download separately, complete and then upload as a PDF attachment on the 'Application Documents' page during the online Highways Licence Application process.

- **Application/Notification to use Temporary Traffic Signals on the Public Highway (TS1)**

This document is mandatory when temporary traffic signals are necessary.

You can access this via the Birmingham City Council website [Specified Licences page](#).

The form is being reviewed. Please note guidance within document, download separately, complete and then upload as a PDF attachment on the 'Application Documents' page during the online Highways Licence Application process.

Note: All documents uploaded as PDF attachments on the 'Application Documents' page during the online Highways Licence Application process, must be clearly labelled using letters and numbers only e.g. Public Liability Insurance, TMP2.

Note: Any PDF attachments submitted with your application that contain characters other than letters/numbers will be rejected by the online system and will send you back to the start of the online Highways Licence Application process. This also applies to any attachments may contain macros and/or are **not in** a PDF format.

Note: That **until all required, correct and up to date documents have been received and confirmed by us, the processing time of your application will NOT BEGIN.**

Note: The online Highways Licence Application process and all supporting documents must be completed **in full**. If the Standard/Major Works will affect traffic (**including pedestrians**), please ensure traffic management documents are submitted to reflect this.

Note: That if we do not have all the relevant documents or if they are out of date etc. and this does not allow us at least the minimum processing time (longer if there is a road closure etc.), this **will have an impact on your proposed start date and you will be required to change it.**

4b. Technical Guidance (Specification)

(Also refer to Appendix 1 - Typical Standard Detail for Temporary Scaffold)

- Indicative scaffolding dimensions are detailed in Appendix 3. You may vary from these details, within reason, but only if proper justification can be given in your risk assessment.
- The scaffold must not be erected to any greater height than 3 metres, unless consent is given by the Authority.
- The scaffold must always be adequately lit between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.
- If a net/fan is required, this should be erected at a minimum of 5.5m above the carriageway channel level before the scaffolding advances in height.
- If the scaffold requires a net/fan a monoflex type impervious sheet must be used.
- The scaffolding must not be nearer than 0.45m to the kerb face, unless alternative protection methods are used, and consent is given by the Authority.
- The scaffold must be covered in a reflective red and white sleeve or tape up to a height of 2.5 metres from the ground.
- If the scaffold is to be illuminated by electric light during the hours of darkness, the electrical installation must be certified by a registered electricity supplier.
- Barriers and signage must be used in order to provide a safe passage for pedestrians.
- The scaffold must be provided with a safety sheet or other apparatus or device at a height of not less than 2.5 metres from the ground, which must effectively prevent any material, tools, water or other liquid falling on to the footway or carriageway.
- Bars, rails or beams to be erected over the footway must be at a height of at least 2.5 metres.
- Access to statutory undertaker's apparatus must always be maintained.
- A pedestrian walkway must always be maintained.
- The volume of pedestrian traffic will determine the width that must be maintained. 1.2m is the minimum width required in low volume areas i.e. cul-de-sac. In areas of high pedestrian activity such as high streets and shopping areas, it may be necessary to maintain up to 3.5 m.
- All signing, lighting and guarding must be in accordance with [Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions \(TSRGD\)](#), [Chapter 8 Part 1](#) and [Chapter 8 Part 2](#) of the Department of Documentation Traffic Signs Manual and [Safety at Streetworks and Road Works – A Code of Practice](#).

Note: It may be necessary for the base lift of the scaffold to be erected/dismantled on a Sunday or out of hours, to secure a safe pedestrian walkway unless otherwise agreed, and dependent on noise levels.

Note: You must inform us whether the activity is a tower or load bearing scaffold.

Note: It is an offence to cause an obstruction on the Public Highway by the stacking of scaffolding materials.

Note: On busy roads/footways it is advised to communicate with other stakeholders (Police, City Centre Management etc.) so that suitable arrangements can be made for the avoidance of danger and inconvenience to the public.

5. Applying for Scaffold Specified Licence with Checklist

The link below will send you to the start of the Online Highways Licence Application found on the Birmingham City Council website.

Once you have selected 'Begin Online Highways Licence Application', the website will guide you through the application process where you will also upload all the required documents for your application.

- [Online Highways Licence Application](#)
Mandatory

Please note that applicant **must also upload** the following documents in PDF format on the 'Application Documents' page within the Online Highways Licence Application (for further information refer to section '4. What do I need to Provide to get a Hoarding Specified Licence?'):

- Temporary Traffic Management Plan with dimensions (TMP1 - Visual) (Appendix 1) (Traffic includes pedestrians)**
Mandatory
- [Temporary Traffic Management Plan \(TMP2 \(Narrative\)\)](#)
Mandatory
- Location of Specified Licence Activity with Dimensions (Appendix 2)**
Mandatory
- Cross Section Detail of Specified Licence Activity with Dimensions (Appendix 3)**
Mandatory
- Risk Assessment (RA)**
Mandatory
- Method Statement (MS)**
Mandatory
- Public Liability Insurance (min £5 million)**
Mandatory
- Accreditation – CISRS Cards**
Mandatory
- [Traffic Management Road Closure Application](#)
Mandatory if a road closure is necessary.
- [Application/Notification to use Temporary Traffic Signals on the Public Highway \(TS1\)](#)
Mandatory if temporary traffic lights are necessary.

When the application process is complete, the uploaded documents will then be automatically submitted to the Local Authority as part of the Online Highways Licence Application.

6. When will I receive the Specified Licence?

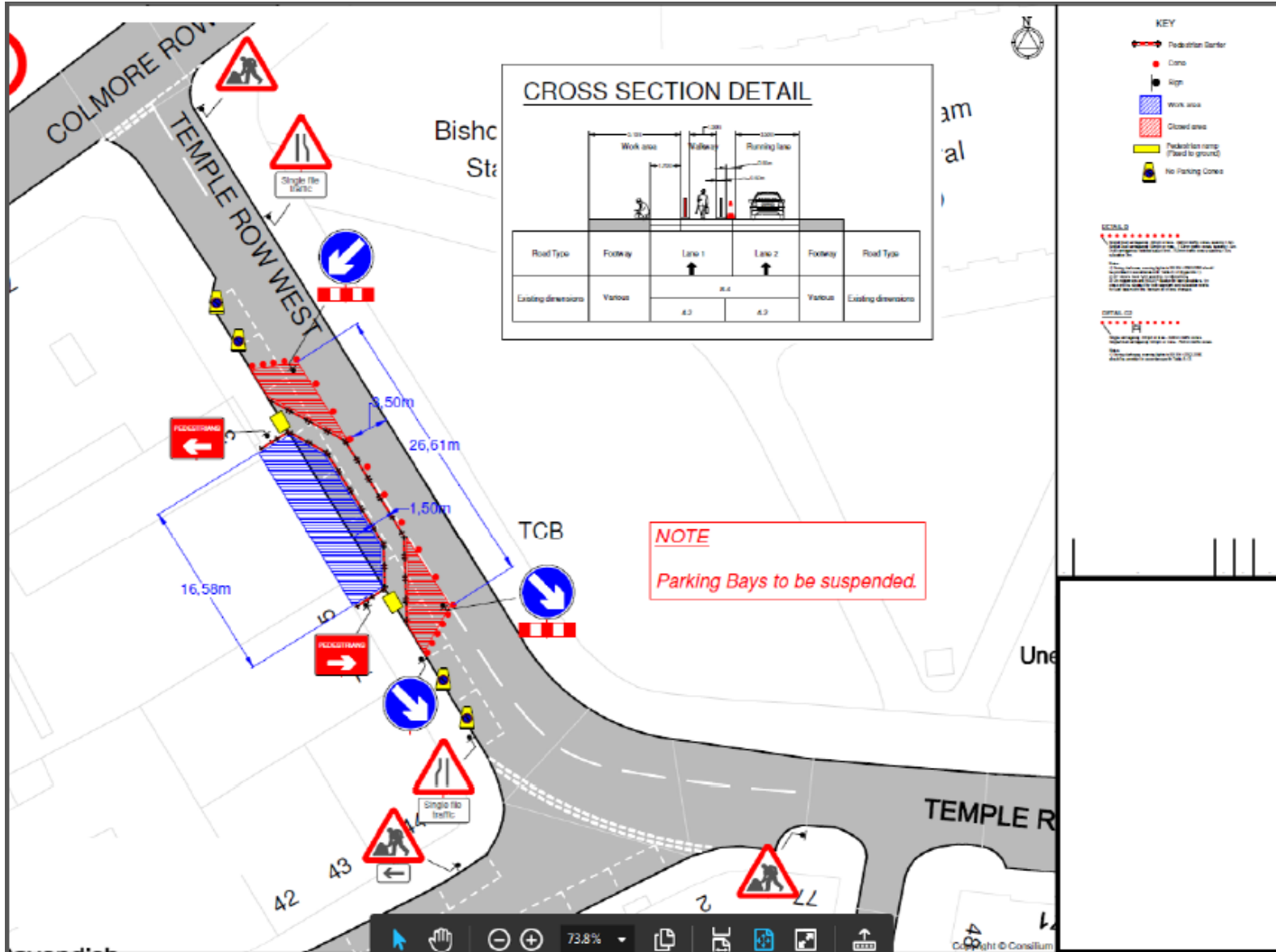
- The Specified Licence and associated costs must be paid for in full, prior to issue.
- Once the Specified Licence has been approved in principle, the Principal Contractor will be notified by email, **note, this does not mean the Specified Licence is valid.**
- The Local Authority will then draft the Specified Licence, and this will be emailed to the Principal Contractor.
- The Principal Contractor **must sign** the Licence and **email it back** to the Local Authority.
- Once received, the Local Authority will sign and date the Specified Licence and return it via email to the Principal Contractor.
- Once all the above bullet points have been addressed, the **Specified Licence is valid, and you can begin work on the site.**

7. Contacts

- For further technical guidance, email: BHM.TechnicalSpecifiedLicences@kier.co.uk
- For further application & administration queries only, email: Highwayspermitmanagement@birmingham.gov.uk
- For road closure and traffic signalling guidance, email: tmapprovals@birmingham.gov.uk

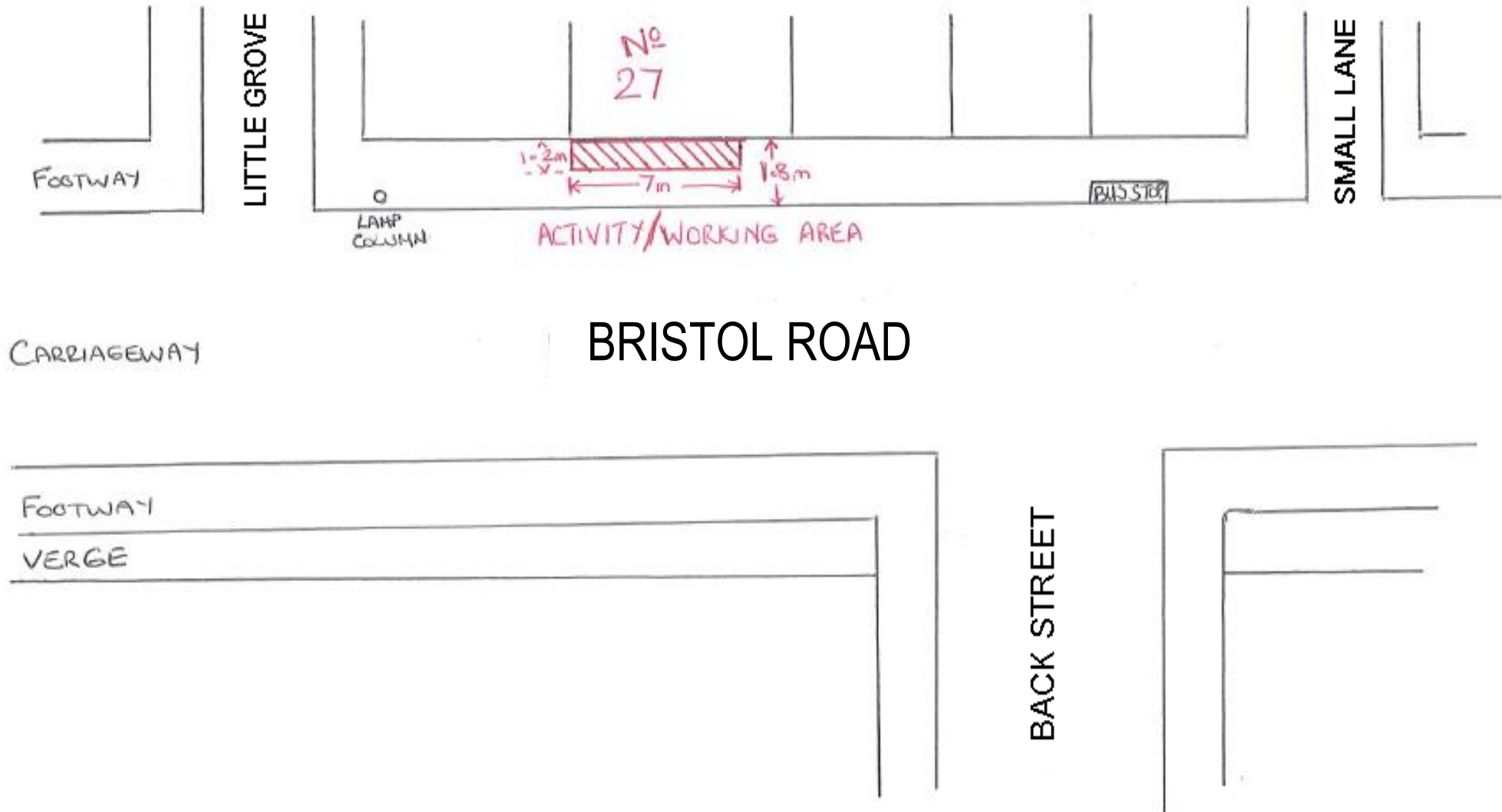
If you require this document in another format, please contact: **0121 675 0273**

8. Appendix 1 - Example of Traffic Management Plan with Dimensions (TMP1 - Visual)



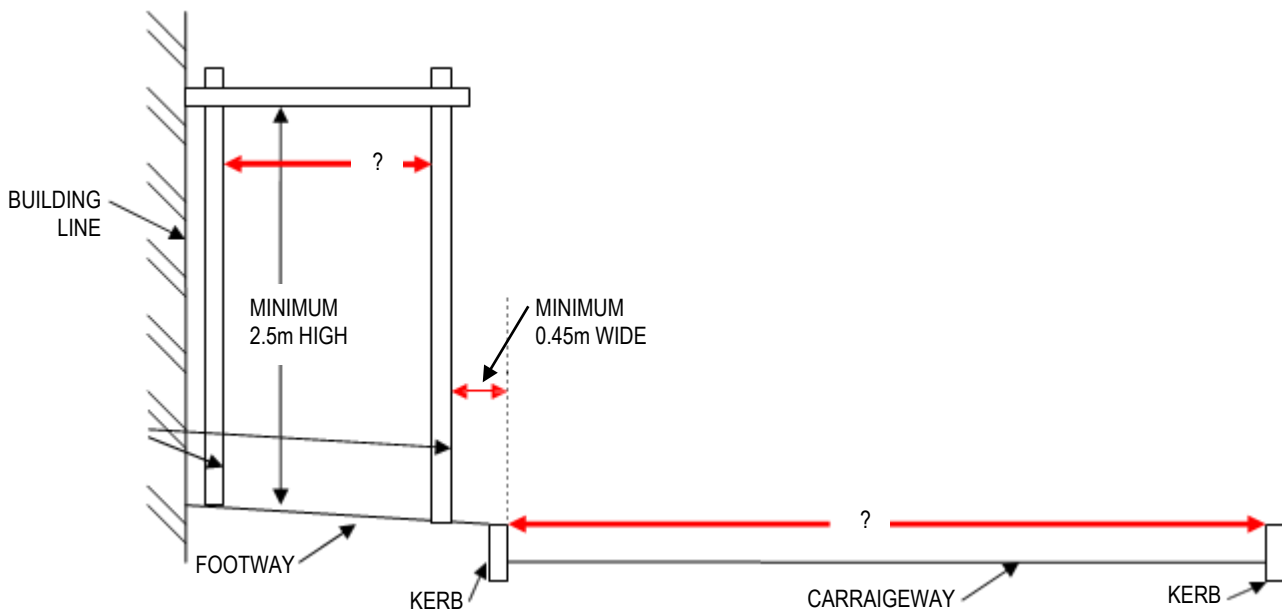
9. Appendix 2 – Example of Location of Specified Licence Activity with Dimensions

Location No.27 BRISTOL ROAD



10. Appendix 3 – Example of Cross-Sectional Detail of Specified Licence Activity with Dimensions

COMPANY NAME	DRAWING TITLE	DRAWING NO. XXXX-XXXX		SHEET SHEET NO.	REV. REVISION NO.
		SCALE SCALE X: XXXX		DRAWN	TECHNICIANS NAME
		DATE DRAWN DATE	ENG ENG INITIALS	APPROVED	APPROVERS INITIALS
		FILE Location FILE LOCATION NAME - XXXXX		SHEET SIZE	XX



NOTES:

1. Where minimum and ranged dimensions are detailed, they must be adhered to. The other dimensions are set as a guide.
2. Lighting is to be in accordance with BS 76711 and fixed at 2.5m high, 3.0m centres
3. Red lights on corners and changes of direction. If a footway is maintained, then intermittent white lights are to be used.
4. Pedestrian facilities must always be provided. Depending upon the location, duration and conditions, between 1.5m and 3.0m unobstructed walkway is to be maintained.
5. The following parameters must be identified on the Typical Standard Cross Section Detail for Temporary Scaffold:
 - Pedestrian access during the scaffold erection and dismantle.
 - Existing street furniture (lamp columns, road signs, litter bins etc.) and if this will affect the safe passage for pedestrians and wheelchair users.
 - Existing CCTV Cameras, Traffic Signals and Utility Apparatus.