



Information Governance

C West
Executive Director
Council House
Earl Street
Coventry
CV1 5RR

16 August 2016

Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7683 3323
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID:REQ01573

Thank you for your request for information relating to obstructions on pavements.

1. How many times has monitoring / inspections of advertising boards or outside displays been carried out, city wide?

Inspectors will respond to enquiries made by members of the public, Councillors and other communication that raise "obstruction" as a concern at a given location. The Inspector will make a site visit to identify the nature of the obstruction and follow due process as laid out in Coventry City Council's Procedure 14 "A Boards and other obstructions". There is not one specific team of officers dealing solely with A Board obstruction; it forms part of a comprehensive list of duties assigned to various Inspectors throughout the City Council.

2. The results of any inspections, including outcomes specifically have any businesses been in any way reprimanded for obstruction etc?

Generally the majority of business owners are compliant with any request to re-locate or remove any dangerous obstruction. However, in line with the Procedure there have been a number of occasions whereby A Boards, Advertising banners, "For Sale" boards, tables & chairs etc have been removed from the public highway and disposed of depending on the situation / location.

3. Who is responsible / owns the pavements adjacent to businesses for example, the Belgrade Theatre often has outdoor tables and seating that completely obstruct the pathway. Is this allowed is this fair or legal?

Ownership of any area of land would be site specific so it is difficult to provide a "one size fits all" response. It could be public Highway, leased to a business owner, privately owned or remain the responsibility of Coventry Council Commercial Property Management. In the event the site comes under the jurisdiction of Coventry City Council (highways or otherwise) then the Tables and Chairs licenses are authorised, controlled and enforced accordingly. Should you have a specific location that is causing you concern please do not hesitate to call our free phone number 0500 83 43 33 and log an enquiry for investigation.

4. How costs related to the upkeep of paving in the city are worked out for example, a number of businesses along the Foleshill Road expand onto the paving during opening hours presumably they should therefore incur charges for the upkeep of these spaces litter, damages etc.

The display of goods along the highway is also controlled under Procedure 14. In the event the members of the public report areas of concern it is our intention to investigate boundary responsibilities and if necessary enforce. On the whole it is most unusual to come across significant damage to the public highway caused by the display of goods. There are no charges currently set to facilitate this activity. Should you wish to report a site specific area of concern please contact Coventry Direct on 0500 83 43 33.

5. How laws are enforced with regards to parking on pavements. Again the Foleshill Road is a prime example of areas where the paving is frequently inaccessible due to on path parking etc. how many tickets / fines or reprimands have been given for these sorts of obstructions as far back as you are able provide.

Currently there is not a universal ban on pavement parking in Coventry. The exception to this is that HGV's are banned. Elsewhere across the city there are numerous locations where pavement parking is permitted.

Footway parking is only enforceable where a Traffic Regulation Order and a parking restriction (e.g. a single or double yellow lines), have been installed on the adjacent roadway. In these locations the Council's Parking Enforcement Officers enforce the restriction as a 'no waiting at any time restriction'.

With the exception of HGV vehicles parking on the footpath, we do not differentiate between vehicles that are ticketed for being illegally parked on the footway from vehicles that are illegally parked on the road.

6. I would also like contact details for the best person to speak with regarding my concerns.

Coventry Direct is our Customer Services team who will be able to log any enquiries you may have about specific locations. They will allocate your enquiry to the correct team to investigate.

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

Yours faithfully

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