

GUIDANCE NOTES

Application for an Advisory Disabled Bay

Stockton Borough Council will consider applications to provide (free of charge) advisory disabled parking bay markings close to properties where a resident's mobility is dependent on them having their vehicle parked immediately outside their home. Any disabled bay provided under these circumstances is on an advisory basis only, and does not legally exclude other motorists from parking in the bay as no legal order will be created. However, due to the stringent criteria necessary to qualify for the bay, which controls numbers, and the fact neighbours are also consulted experience has shown these markings are in general well respected.

Where can disabled bay markings be provided?

The disabled bay markings are usually associated with residential roads where there is a heavy demand on parking and where there are no other formal waiting restrictions in place (yellow lines). There are legal reasons why advisory disabled bay markings cannot be provided where there are already yellow lines.

Advisory bays are also marked in accordance with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions in that the word "**Disabled**" will be written alongside the bay on the road, but they **do not** have a restriction plate (showing the blue disabled symbol) accompanying them.

To qualify for an Advisory Disabled Bay

The guidelines Stockton Borough Council adhere to are as follows: -

- A member of the household is a disabled person with mobility problems and possesses a Blue Badge.
- The disabled person, or a member of the household, owns or drives a vehicle and keeps the vehicle at that address.
- There are car parking problems evident in the vicinity of the property.
- The applicant has no alternative off-street parking available, or the possibility of providing it.
- A 6.6 metre parking bay can be accommodated in front of the applicant's property in a safe and suitable position.

Reasons why my request may be turned down?

In certain circumstances Council approval to implement an advisory disabled bay will not be granted. These circumstances include where:

- Waiting restrictions are already in operation
- Implementation of the bay would adversely affect road safety or obstruct traffic movements.
- An existing Residents Permit Parking Zone is in place or has been proposed.
- Local Ward Councillors or affected residents formally object.

If the land where a marking is required is not on a public road, assessment / provision is not the responsibility of Stockton Borough Council and would have to be agreed and funded by the landowner.

How do I apply?

Fill in the attached application form or ask a friend, family member or carer to complete it on your behalf. (If anyone other than yourself completes the form your behalf we will use that person as a contact for any further correspondence). The information given is important to enable us to accurately assess any application.

A supporting letter from an Occupational Therapist, Doctor, or Social Services contact (if appropriate) may also be submitted along with the application form. This should indicate that mobility is dependent on having a vehicle close to the relevant property.

Consultation

As part of the assessment process consultations will be necessary with Local Ward Councillors, the Police and any affected residents. Residents who may be affected by the markings will be consulted and asked whether they would support the application.

How long will it take if my application is approved?

It will normally take between 8 and 12 weeks to assess an application and to carry out consultations. As soon as the assessment and consultations have been completed we will advise if it has been approved.

If for any reason the bay is no longer necessary the applicant should inform Stockton Borough Council so that removal can take place.

Disclosure of Information

We will not disclose information about any individual to anyone outside of Stockton Borough Council nor use the information for other purposes unless the law permits us to.

Stockton Borough Council is the Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998. If you want to know more about what information we have about you, or the way we use information about you, please do not hesitate to contact us or visit our Web Page on www.stockton.gov.uk

Please send the completed form to:

Advisory Disabled Bay Requests
Network Safety
Stockton Borough Council
PO Box 229
Kingsway House
Billingham
TS23 2YL

Email: technicalservices@stockton.gov.uk