

Highway Reinstatement and Permit Requirements

1. Overview

All highway reinstatement works within Stockton-on-Tees Council's jurisdiction must comply with the latest edition of the **Specification for the Reinstatement of Openings in Highways (SROH)**, published by the Department for Transport and endorsed by HAUC (UK) and the Tees Valley Highway Design Guide.

2. Key Requirements

2.1 Compliance

- All reinstatement works must meet the performance and material standards outlined in **SROH 4th Edition (May 2020)**, including requirements for **immediate, interim, and permanent reinstatements**.
- All reinstatements must also comply with the Tees Valley Design Guide.

2.2 Material Suitability

- Only approved materials meeting durability, compaction, and settlement criteria specified in SROH and the Tees Valley Highway Design Guide are permitted.

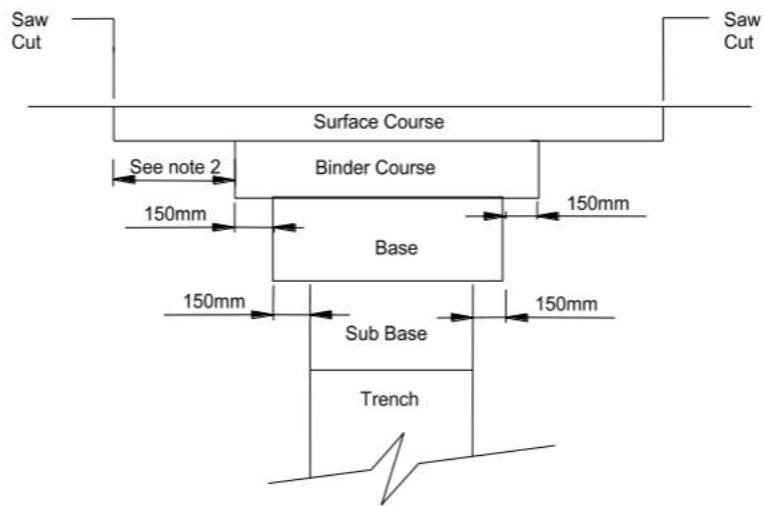
2.3 Compaction and Layering

- Proper compaction of each reinstatement layer is essential to prevent future settlement and ensure long-term performance.

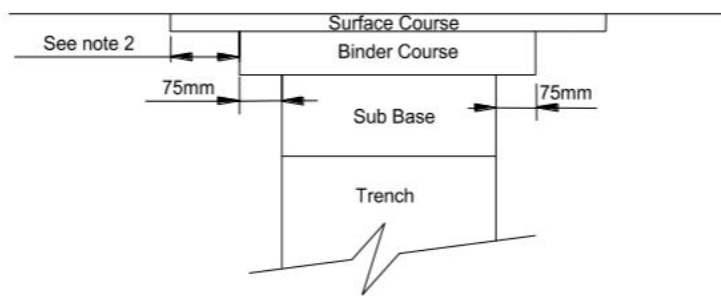
2.4 Specification

- Reinstated surfaces must match the existing carriageway or footway in **texture, colour, and profile** to maintain visual and structural continuity.
- Where reasonably possible surface course reinstatements will be machine laid. Hand laying will only be permitted with the prior approval.
- Carry out excavations in a manner that prevents harm to nearby structures, surfaces, and tree roots.
- Form trench walls so they remain straight, vertical, and free from any undercutting.
- Provide excavation support systems that meet all applicable Health & Safety standards.

- Manage groundwater and surface water effectively, ensuring any collected water is pumped to an approved disposal point.
- Reconstruct bituminous layers with stepped interfaces, reinstate concrete to full slab depth, and recover and reuse modular paving units wherever possible.
- High Amenity Areas (e.g., the pedestrianised section of Stockton High Street, footways on Yarm and Norton High Streets, and part of The Causeway in Billingham), as well as locations classed as Special Engineering Difficulty (such as the carriageway on Stockton High Street), are identified within Street Manager.
- When a permit application is submitted for any of these areas, promoters will receive an instruction to contact StreetworksPermits@stockton.gov.uk before any excavation takes place. A site meeting will then be arranged with Officers from the Streetworks and Highway Asset teams. This meeting will highlight the requirements for lifting paving with minimal cutting and will confirm the correct reinstatement materials.
- Promoters are responsible for carrying out their own permanent reinstatements in these areas. Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's Highway Operations team holds a stock of approved reinstatement materials, which can be purchased if needed, and the promoter invoiced accordingly.
- Guarantee periods follow the standard requirements for the excavation depth in accordance with SROH (see also Section S2.5).
- This list is not exhaustive additional requirements and specifications can be found in the HAUC Specification and the Tees Valley Design Guide.



CARRIAGEWAY



FOOTWAY / CYCLETRACK

NOTES

1. The depth and type of reinstatement materials are specified in Section 8.10
2. Where a trench runs longitudinally in the carriageway, footway or cycletrack then the width of surface course reinstatement shall be as specified in Clause 10.10.6(ii).
Where a trench runs across the carriageway the step width shall be 150mm minimum.
Where a trench runs across the footway or cycletrack the step width shall be 75mm minimum.

2.5 Guarantee Periods

- Reinstatements are subject to guarantee periods during which any failure must be rectified by the responsible party at their own cost.
 - The guarantee period begins on completion of the permanent reinstatement and runs for two years in general, or three years in the case of deep openings. Deep openings are any excavation, core or trench where the depth of cover over the apparatus is greater than 1.5m but not including openings with a depth of cover intermittently greater than 1.5m over lengths of less than 5m.
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3. Prohibited Materials

- **Foam concrete** is not permitted in any part of the reinstatement process.
 - Exceptions may be considered on a **case-by-case basis** in liaison with the Streetworks and Highway Assets teams.
 - Foam concrete has been observed to exhibit **shrinkage characteristics** that compromise durability and structural integrity.
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4. Enforcement and Inspections

- All reinstatement works are subject to inspection by the authority.
- Non-compliance or use of prohibited materials will result in enforcement action, including:
 - Mandatory remedial works
 - Potential penalties
- Reinstatements must be constructed on a **like-for-like basis**.
- Engage with the **Highway Asset Team** regarding reinstatement specifications and any enhanced requirements (e.g., material standards, surface treatments, upgrades beyond statutory obligations).

For queries regarding material selection or specific details, contact:

HTD@stockton.gov.uk, StreetworksPermits@stockton.gov.uk and [Roadwork Contacts - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council](#)
