

PAVEMENT CAFE DESIGN GUIDE

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This guide is intended to ensure that outdoor cafes can be established in the streets and precincts of Kirklees without conflicting with the needs of other street users and ensure a high quality of design that enhances the environment.
- 1.2 It will not normally be necessary to obtain planning consent; however, it will be necessary to obtain a licence from the Licensing Service.
- 1.3 If it is intended to provide liquor for consumption on the highways it is essential that all applicants ensure that their current licence extends to the proposed facility.

2 Size and Layout

- 2.1 This will be dependent on factors such as available space, type of premises and street furniture. Needs of other highway users should be taken into account, e.g. pedestrian flows, vehicular access etc. Although these criteria will be determined by Highways Service, it should be noted that the following key principles will apply in every case.
- 2.2 A clear pedestrian route shall be maintained for those walking past the premises. This should preferably be adjacent to the kerb to ensure that most pedestrians and particularly those with visual impairments can maintain their regular route. This should normally be of a minimum width of 2.0 metres. Emergency exits from adjacent buildings must not be obstructed by the seating area. Visibility displays must not be obstructed.
- 2.3 In the case of a precinct, a maximum of one third of the total width will normally be allowed.
- 2.4 The layout of the tables, seats, access points and enclosure will have to be approved. It is essential that the layout of these areas do not provide any obstruction or inconvenience to those customers with disabilities and particularly that adequate space is left between tables for wheelchair access.
- 2.5 The approved café area may be permanently marked out by the Council by steel pins or markers set into the pavement or where appropriate by paving materials and design. It is important that no obstructions such as tables, chairs or barriers etc be left on the pavement outside the approved hours.

3 Means of Enclosure

- 3.1 When a street café is in use a temporary form of enclosure will normally be required, with adequate openings to permit access. The function of this enclosure is to demarcate and contain the cafe but also to give a clear warning particularly to people with visual impairments.

- 3.2 For this reason it is essential that the barrier has some solid elements particularly just above ground level to be detectable by a stick and an element approximately 800mm high in a contrasting colour to the background that is highly visible.
- 3.3 It is essential that the means of enclosure is lightweight in construction, both to ensure that it is not too visually dominant in the street scene and to enable it to be dismantled and stored in the premises outside the approved hours.
- 3.4 The colour and materials of the enclosure will have to be considered carefully to ensure that in the longer views it is not too visually dominant but close up that certain key elements stand out against the background (e.g. a waist high rope).
- 3.5 In some circumstances a particular design may be insisted upon to retain some continuity of design in a particular space or square for instance.
- 3.6 Please note that post & chain or rope barriers are not considered suitable although existing street furniture or street railings may be utilised where appropriate.

4 Furniture

- 4.1 A standard design of seating and tables will not be insisted upon but a reasonable quality will be requested and a mixture of furniture is not recommended. The materials and colours should not be too bright, garish or overly reflective. White plastic furniture will not normally be approved. Tables should be of a design to allow wheelchair use.
- 4.2 The use of umbrellas will have to be specified as part of the design along with their location material and colour. These must be positioned so they cannot overhang beyond the means of enclosure, even if adjusted, which could create a danger to a passing pedestrian.
- 4.3 Only fabric umbrellas will be permitted to avoid reflective surfaces, and in certain circumstances a particular type may be insisted upon to retain some continuity of design in a space.
- 4.4 The colours and design on the umbrella itself will not be restricted to a particular type but again, too bright or garish colours must be avoided allowing for the fact that these elements will bring some colour to the street scene.
- 4.5 Any advertising must relate to items on sale within the café. Any other advertising would require specific planning consent.
- 4.6 Picnic style benches are not permitted.
- 4.7 Furniture associated with the licence must be of a suitable type / design to enable it to be removed in its entirety from the highway, and securely stored, outside of the hours permitted by the licence. Securely stored in this instance means stored in a place that is not accessible to members of the public

5 Environmental Issues

- 5.1 It will be expected that the approved café area will be kept clean and litter free and it should also be ensured that litter does not stray onto the neighbouring area.
- 5.2 It will be the responsibility of the licence holder to ensure any detritus is removed from the area covered by the licence and the area in the immediate vicinity, i.e to the side and / or front of the premises and pavement café area.