

NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council

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Dear Clerk

2016 GUIDANCE FOR PLACING AND ENFORCING UNAUTHORISED OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE HIGHWAY

I am writing following my letter earlier this year when I attached for your information a copy of the Council's Guidance for Placing and Enforcing Unauthorised Obstructions in the Highway. This documentation was publicised in the local press across Northumberland and I asked for your help in promoting the guidance to local businesses within your area.

Several town and parish councils asked for a review after a period of time and therefore I am writing to you again to remind you about the guidance and to see whether you feel that the guidance has been helpful and whether there are any amendments that could be made.

I'm sure that you will be aware that 'A' boards and other items placed on pavements can make life very difficult for people with sight or mobility impairments, which is why we are taking this forward. During October our Highway Inspectors will be visiting towns across Northumberland and where business' A Boards or other unauthorised obstructions are causing problems they will be reminding them of their responsibilities and the enforcement that will take place if the guidance is not being adhered to.

For your information we will also be writing to the local Chambers of Trade to advise them of the forthcoming inspection activity and to seek their continued support in promoting this guidance to their members and the need to ensure pavements are kept safe for all users.

If you have any feedback this may be provided to the inspectors or you can write directly to me. Once again may I thank you for your support so far.

Yours faithfully

**Ruth Bendell CEng BEng MICE CMIHT
Infrastructure Manager**