Parking near dropped kerbs: DOs and DONTs

Havering Councillors and Council Officers are frequently asked questions about the rules relating to parking outside properties where there are dropped kerbs, also known as vehicle crossovers.

This leaflet is designed to help answer those questions.
Dropped kerbs and the law:

The Traffic Management Act 2004 states that to park across a dropped kerb is a parking contravention for which a Penalty Charge Notice can be issued. In Havering we only regard “unfriendly” parking across a dropped kerb as a parking contravention. Put simply, if you park in a part of a road where there is a dropped kerb you are committing an offence UNLESS you have the permission of the owner of the property, or properties, using that dropped kerb.

It’s all about good manners - respecting the right of property owners to gain access to their homes and in places near schools, it’s about the safety of vulnerable children.

It is not OK to obstruct communal entrances, for example, a driveway leading to a block of flats that may need to be accessed by emergency services or rubbish collectors.

Important: The policy described in this leaflet applies in the London Borough of Havering – different rules may apply in other boroughs.
This is OK. The car is parked at least 1.5 metres (5 feet) clear of the dropped kerb and there are no parking restrictions applying in this part of the road.

This is NOT OK, unless you have the permission of the property owner who uses this dropped kerb.
This is NOT OK
Even if you park like this when the single yellow line restrictions are not in operation, you must always have the permission of the property owner who uses this dropped kerb.

This is NOT OK
In the picture above the fact that a vehicle could physically access the two properties sharing this dropped kerb does not make this permissible at any time – unless you have the agreement of both property owners. If any part of a vehicle (not just the wheels) overhangs a dropped kerb which causes the property owner an obstruction to drive on or off their driveway, the vehicle owner may receive a Penalty Charge Notice.
Never block the footway by parking across dropped kerbs - even in a road where there are parking bays marked on the footway.

If you have parking bays in your street you can park across your own drive, but no further on to the footpath than the marked bays. The blue car in this illustration is correctly parked.

If you share a drive, the same rules apply and you will need permission from the neighbour with whom you share the drive before parking across the dropped kerb.
If you suffer from parking across your driveway please report it at www.havering.gov.uk or call 01708 432787

Havering Council Civil Enforcement Officers work between 7am and 10pm Monday to Saturday, and between 9am and 10pm on Sundays and our officers will issue Penalty Charge Notices to vehicles found to be parked in contravention of the rules applying to parking across dropped kerbs.