

Display of election posters on verges and lighting columns

Annex 1:

Community Services

Display of election posters on verges and lighting columns

The Council's general policy on the display of election posters was confirmed by The Highland Council at its meeting on 16 December 2010. The policy will be issued to each election Candidate/Election Agent.

The Policy applies only to roadside verges in the direct ownership of The Highland Council.

Road safety is of paramount concern. The Council will permit the display of election posters on roadside verges and lighting columns within the Council area in connection with any election but only subject to the following conditions:-

1. Before posters are erected, the Chairman or Secretary of the relevant party association (or candidate if there is no such association) must state by letter to the Director of Community Services that the association (or, where appropriate, the candidate) agrees to indemnify the Council against any damages as a result of the display of election posters. Associations (and candidates) must ensure that they are in a position to meet any successful claims in these respects.
2. Posters must not be erected prior to the date of announcement of an election.
3. Posters must not in any circumstances be located upon the central reserve of dual carriageways, refuge islands in the centre of roadways, traffic signal posts, control boxes or upon roundabouts.
4. Posters must be located at the rear of any verge provision and in any case no closer than 1.5 metres to the running surface of any carriageway.
5. Posters must not be located so as to interfere with the visibility required for persons emerging from side roads or private accesses.
6. Posters must be so mounted that the poster and mount will not afford any resistance or damage to a vehicle coming into contact with them.
7. Posters attached to lighting columns must be first fixed to card of adequate stiffness which in turn must be tied with string to the road lighting column. The mounting height of the card must not be less than 2100 mm (7 ft) above the height of the adjoining footway.
8. The area of any poster must not exceed 0.2 sq m, and the maximum overall vertical or horizontal dimension must not exceed 500 mm.
9. Posters, mounts and string must be removed within the 7 days following the election.

10. For statutory reasons the Returning Officer cannot be involved in controlling the erection of election posters. Any questions or problems concerning this policy will be dealt with by the Director of Community Services.

11. Except as stated above no permission is given for election posters to be displayed on any Council property.

12. If candidates intend to erect Election Posters adjacent to a Trunk Road, please note that permission to erect posters should be sought from the company's representatives as follows:

BEAR Scotland Limited
BEAR House
Inveralmond Road
Perth
PH1 3TW

Tel: 01738 448600

Email: enquiries@bearsotland.co.uk

David Sutherland, Election Manager,
Highland Council Headquarters,
Inverness, IV3 5NX.

Policy confirmed by The Highland Council on 16 December 2010
Revised contact details – 14 October 2013