

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

TEC SERVICES

TECHNICAL ADVICE NOTE FORESTRY EXTRACTION

Director of TEC Services

Highland Council
Glenurquhart Road
INVERNESS
IV3 5NX

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TECHNICAL ADVICE NOTE

1.0 FORESTRY EXTRACTION

- 1.1 This note is intended to provide advice on the provision of new or improved access to public roads for forestry extraction purposes.
- 1.2 Planning consent is necessary for any new access on classified roads. Significant improvement or alteration to an existing access may also require planning consent. Developers should contact the Planning and Development Service for guidance on planning requirements; **however, a Road Opening Permit must be obtained from the appropriate Area Roads and Community Works Manager for any new or improved access connecting to a public road.** The advice given in this technical note is given without prejudice to the decision of the planning authority in respect of any planning application.
- 1.3 Appendix A gives typical layout drawings for forestry access and transfer points adjacent to public roads.
- 1.4 Appropriate visibility splays defined by dimensions X and Y shall be agreed with the roads authority. The splay dimensions will be dependent upon the speed of traffic on the public road, the scale of extraction or development proposed and the category of the public road. Within the visibility splays nothing shall obscure visibility between a driver's eye height of 1.05 metres anywhere along the X dimension and an object height of 0.6 metres anywhere along the Y dimension..
- 1.5 Any roadside ditch or drain shall be cleared out as necessary and a suitable culvert of 300 mm min. dia. shall be provided across the access. **The actual type and size of the culvert, details of headwalls and any invert protection required must be agreed with the appropriate Area Roads and Community Works Manager.**
- 1.6 Construction of the access bellmouth shall consist of a minimum thickness of 350mm Type 1 sub-base material, all on a sound formation, laid and shaped so that surface water from the access will not discharge onto the public road or from the public road onto the access. A 3 metre wide strip from the edge of the public road over the full width of the bellmouth shall be finished with a minimum of 40mm thick 14mm nominal size close graded asphalt concrete Surface Course to Clause 912 of the Specification for Highway Works, laid on 60mm thick 20mm nominal size dense asphalt concrete Binder Course to Clause 906 of the Specification of Highway Works..
- 1.7 The gradient of the access for the first 6 metres back from the edge of the public road should not be in excess of 2.5% (1 in 40).
- 1.8 It may also be necessary in the interest of road safety for the developer to provide edge of carriageway markings at the access junction. The requirement and specification can be obtained from the appropriate Area Roads and Community Works Manager..

1.9 Entrance gates, if any, shall not be less than 15 metres from the edge of the carriageway and shall open away from the carriageway only.

1.10 Adequate parking space shall be provided within the site for all vehicles used in connection with the work. Sufficient turning space shall be provided to enable all vehicles to leave and join the public road in a forward gear.

2.0 OPERATIONAL ADVICE

2.1 **The operator as defined by Section 96 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Reprinted 1994) will be required to meet the cost of any above average road maintenance expenditure resulting from traffic movements associated with the timber extraction operation.** In addition specific damage to structures will be held to be the responsibility of the operator. It would therefore be advisable to agree with the Area Roads and Community Works Manager, prior to the operation commencing, the condition of the road and basis upon what damage arising will be assessed.

2.2 It is the Operator's responsibility to ensure that any mud, silt or loose material deposited on the public road, arising from the operations of vehicles or plant entering and leaving the site, are removed as soon as reasonably practicable. Failure to do so could constitute an offence under Section 96 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984

2.3 Prior permission is required, if the operator wishes to load, stack or unload timber or materials within the public road boundary. An appropriate permit must be obtained from the Area Roads and Community Works Manager; failure to do so may constitute an offence under Section 59 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984.

2.4 Where roadwork signing and traffic control is required this should comply with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual. A method statement should be forwarded, along with the permit application, to the Area Roads & Community Works Manager for approval prior to the commencement of any felling or extraction of timber.

2.5 Roadside trees should not be left in isolation when a whole area is being cleared as a risk of trees being blown onto the public road will remain.

2.6 Care should be taken when clearing slopes above a road so that increased groundwater plus surcharge of trees felled and/or standing does not precipitate slip failure in the slopes below.

Appendix A

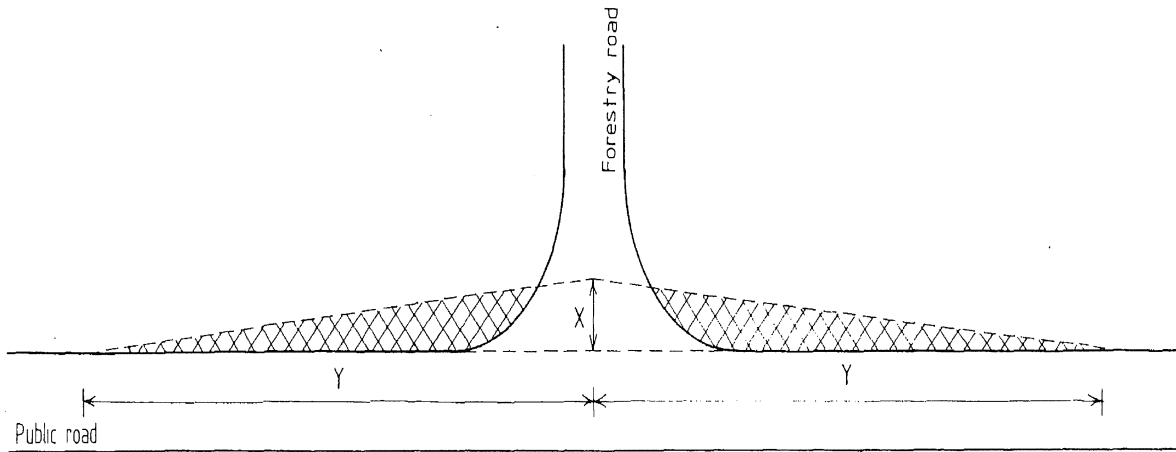


Diagram 1
VISIBILITY SPLAYS

Indicative Visibility Splays:- No obstructions exceeding 0.6 metres above adjacent road level.						
Speed on public road _kph	100	85	60	50	30	
Speed on public road _mph	60	50	40	30	20	
Distance Y metres	215	160	120	90	60	
Distance X metres	9m, may be reduced to 4.5m in difficult circumstances, subject to approval by Area Roads and Community Works Manager					

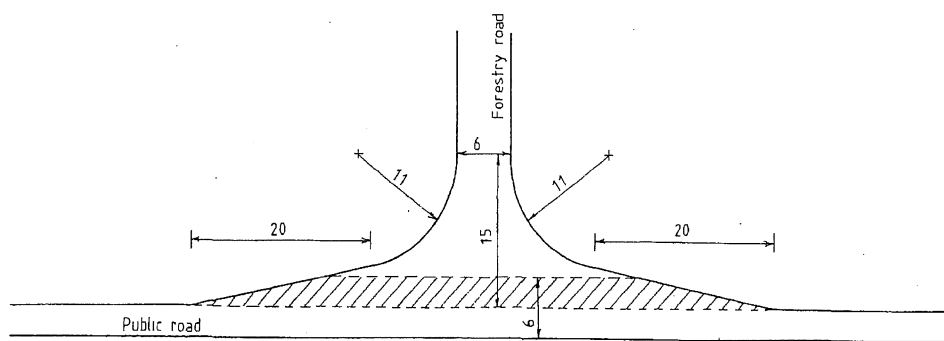


Diagram 2
ACCESS ONTO SINGLE TRACK ROAD

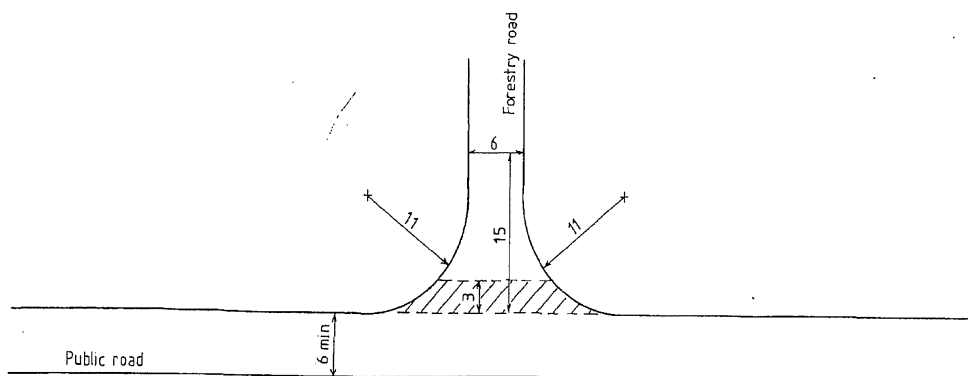


Diagram 3
ACCESS ONTO SINGLE CARRIAGEWAY

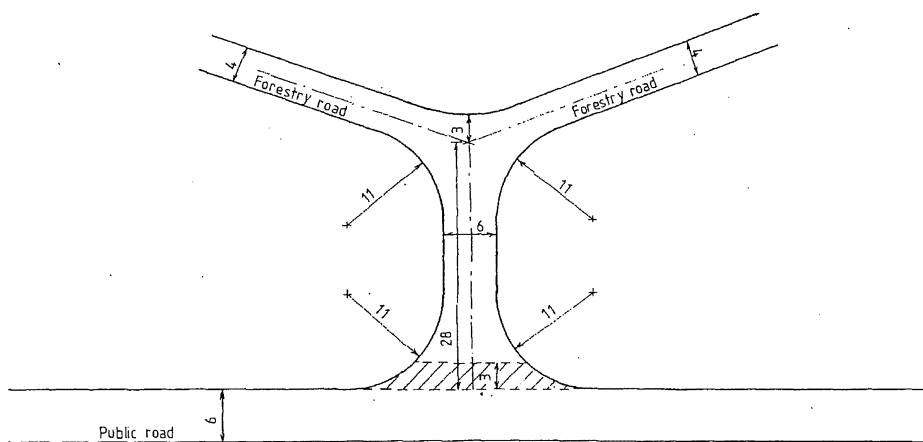


Diagram 4
FORESTRY TRANSFER POINT
(Shown used with Diagram 3)

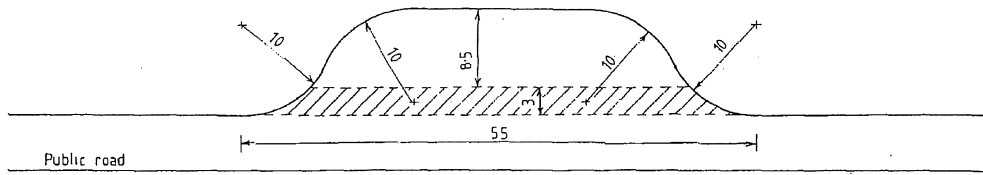


Diagram 5
LOADING BAY

Notes:

1. No other works shall commence within the site until the access from the public road has been formed or improved to the dimensions shown in the appropriate diagrams, and the required visibility splays have been provided in full..
2. Lip of bellmouth to be shaped such that surface water does not access onto the public road. Saw cut edge required at joint with public road.
3. Services to be carried under road in accordance with the specifications of the Authority concerned.
4. 3 metres wide strip to be finished with 100mm thick bound surfacing material.. Refer to Technical Advice note 1.6.
5. All dimensions in metres unless otherwise stated.
6. All drawings digitally reproduced, do not use to scale