



Third Party Works Around Level Crossings

Guidance on Street Works Code of
Practice & Consultation with Translink



www.translink.co.uk/worksaroundlevelcrossings



Third Party
Works **///**

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Notify the Translink Third Party Works team of any
Roadworks within 200m of a Level Crossing.

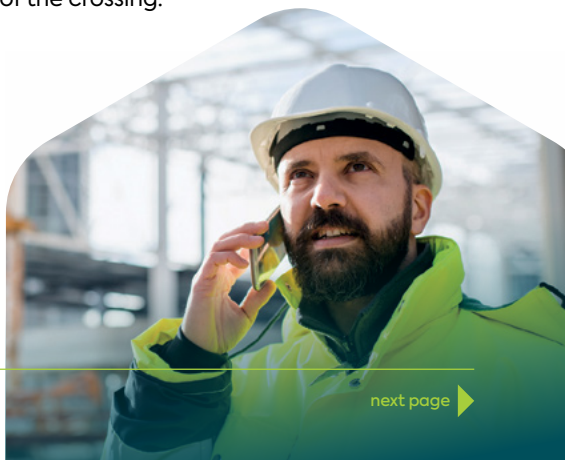
This leaflet has been created by Translink's Third Party Works team and is intended to support the Street Works Code of Practice for third parties working in close proximity to level crossings across Northern Ireland.

It is extremely dangerous to cause road traffic to stop on or move slowly over a level crossing. When working near a level crossing you must ensure that traffic does not block back and stop on the crossing. This is done by risk review and implementation of appropriate traffic control arrangements for the road rail interface around the level crossing.

If works are to be carried out within the precautionary area, within 200 metres of the crossing, consult with Translink in advance to review and ensure the most appropriate traffic management and construction methods are proposed for the road-rail interface and safe operation of the crossing.

This leaflet will provide guidance on the risks considered, Safe Systems, and the process to consult and gain permission to proceed from Translink's Third Party Works team.

If you have a query, contact our Third Party Works Team and an Engineer will call you back to discuss.



Railway & Level Crossing Background – Blocking Back Risk

Trains traveling at up to 90mph take 2km to stop and therefore will not normally be able to stop in time or change course in an emergency for an unexpected obstruction at a level crossing which may be as a result of street works.

One of the causes of this risk is blocking back of traffic.

Blocking back as shown in the below image can be caused as a result of street works traffic restrictions. When a driver enters the level crossing at a time when the crossing exit becomes blocked by queuing traffic, a train may approach which can result in catastrophic consequences for the road users and train passengers.

A train should be expected to cross the level crossing at any time day or night, including during pre-arranged closures of road or the railway line. However, when unaware or inappropriate traffic management is used this can result in traffic using the crossing when a train is approaching.

It is therefore essential to notify the Translink Third Party Works team in advance to review and establish a safe system to mitigate the potential risk. The Street Works COP document requires any works within 200m of a level crossing to be consulted with Translink before permission to proceed can be granted.



Example of inappropriate traffic management arrangements. Resulting in Blocking Back to the Level Crossing

Safe Systems for Works around Level Crossings

The safest system should be used where practicable, otherwise the next safest system may be considered, with justification.

1. Railway Track Possession (Third Party Works Procedure applies)	This system is for high-risk work typically to be undertaken at night, outside of scheduled train services (i.e. T3 Possession) with 6 week's minimum notice required. For more info & relevant forms refer to www.translink.co.uk/thirdpartyworks
2. Full Road Closure	Hard closure where possible, local access may be considered with justification. 1 Month minimum notice required for 2. & 3.
3. Partial Road Closure or Lane Closure – (Off-Peak road traffic & rail services)	Manual control or Stop-go is preferred near a level crossing, no mobile traffic lights are permitted within 50m of the crossing. Additional stop – go operatives may be required either side of the level crossing to: • Stop traffic to prevent further blocking back occurring towards and onto the crossing. • Stop contraflow traffic directed towards the un-barriered side of a half barrier crossing when the level crossing warning has started.

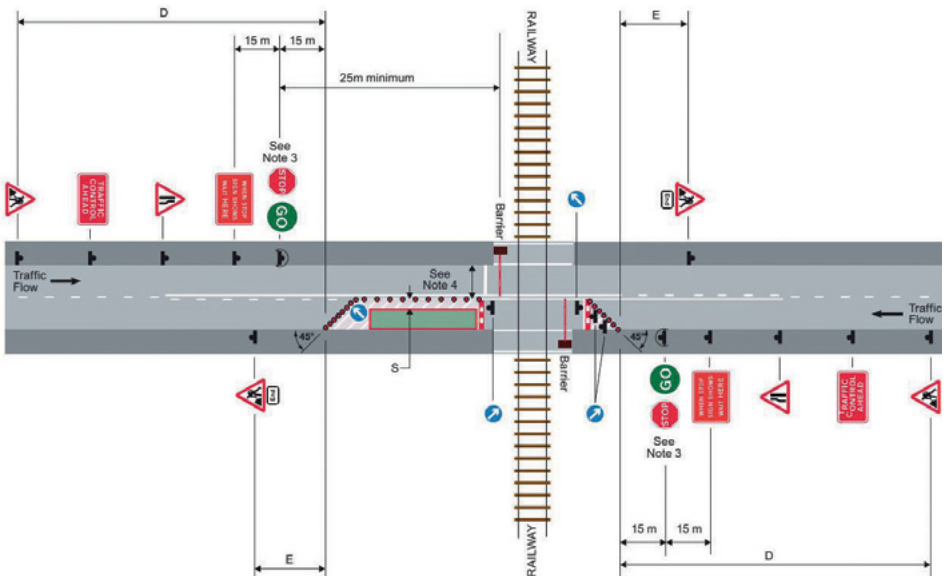


Risk Considerations

Temporary traffic management & RAMS considerations guidance available at translink.co.uk/worksaroundlevelcrossings

- No proposals are permitted between white stop bar lines. See indicative layout below. If works are required in this area, refer to Safe System 1. Railway Track Possession, Third Party Works procedure.
- No excavations, excavator or lifting equipment shall be located close to the level crossing white stop line, such that it's failure or max reach is not within 4m. To be reviewed and agreed with the Third Party Works team.
- Diversion route shall avoid roads with a low bridge and other level crossings where possible, If not possible avoid diversions onto another level crossing of a lower-class road.
- Pedestrian management shall be planned and implemented so that pedestrians cross as per normal operation of the level crossing. Access and egress from the crossing shall not be altered or restricted for pedestrians.
- The level crossing barriers, warning & information signs, warning lights (wigwags) and sirens shall not be altered or obstructed by the works or temporary traffic management arrangements.

Works at a level crossing using Stop/GO boards



See Note 4: No excavations, excavator or lifting equipment shall be located close to the level crossing white stop line, such that it's failure or max reach is not within 4m. To be reviewed and agreed with the Third Party Works team.





When and how to contact Translink's Third Party Works Team

Translink should be notified of proposed works around a level crossing at least 1 month in advance by sending the following to Translink Third Party Works team at thirdpartyworks@translink.co.uk:

- LC Form (download template from webpage)
- Location, Site & TTM Plans
- RAMS

An allocated engineer will contact you to discuss the proposed plans and safety system.

If you encounter an emergency effecting the railway, follow the contact procedure on the above Third Party Works webpage, by clicking on Contact Us

You can also call us on **028 9066 6630** or meet with a representative in person at our Milewater Service Centre office or onsite.



For further information scan the QR code or visit
www.translink.co.uk/worksaroundlevelcrossings



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