

Clutter Free Ceredigion



Working together to keep our
streets obstacle free



Caru·Love
Ceredigion



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

www.ceredigion.gov.uk

Have you ever thought...?

This is a good place for people to see my advertising sign

I'll unload my stock on the pavement and move it shortly

I'll only be parked here 5 minutes while I pop into the shop

It won't hurt if I put my rubbish out a day early

I'll put some items out here and I'll have more room in my shop

What do these have in common? They all obstruct our streets and are potential safety hazards, especially for those who have visual and/or physical impairments, older people and parents with pushchairs and young children.

What is an obstruction?

An obstruction is any unauthorised object which is placed on or over a street or that is attached to street furniture.

But how do these unintended obstructions impact on other members of our community?

Let's take a look ...

Obstructions can include:

- Advertising Boards (A boards)
- Banners
- Tables and Chairs
- Goods sold from pavements
- Deliveries left on pavements
- Parked cars on pavements or by dropped kerbs
- Wheelie bins and rubbish bags
- Shop canopies with hanging merchandise
- Overgrown foliage



Paul is a Guide Dog owner living in Ceredigion -
“I rarely venture out of my home unless my dog and I are accompanied by a sighted guide as I am worried that we may be injured. I feel there has been an increase in street obstacles which mean my guide dog and I have to walk on the road to pass them, which is very scary if you possess little to no sight.”

Laura is a visitor to Aberystwyth -
“I often find it difficult to walk around town because of advertising boards on the pavement. I am not as agile as I used to be and it can be difficult to walk to where I want to go. Sometimes boards block my view when I try to cross the road and I worry that I won't see a vehicle or a driver won't see me.”



Rhiannon is a wheelchair user living in Ceredigion -
“As a wheelchair user one of my main issues is inaccessible pavements, mainly due to vehicles parked on dropped kerbs or pavements. This results in me having to change my route, often resulting in negotiating oncoming traffic, risking my safety.”

Tara is a new mother from Ceredigion -
‘It's only since I've needed to push a pram that I have realised how difficult it sometimes can be to safely and easily negotiate streets. This can influence where we choose to go to shop, eat out or visit.’



How could this affect you?

What about the personal consequences or liability for you if you are causing one of these obstructions? You might be faced with all or some of these:

- Paying potential fines and / or solicitors fees.
- Being subject to insurance or liability claims following an accident/injury.
- Bad publicity for your business as it becomes associated with causing a problem.
- Reduced footfall as people can't access your business.
- Spending time dealing with enforcement action against you.



Whilst tools, including enforcement, are available to the Authority and others, we would prefer to work together to create a culture of positive change.

We hope this leaflet will ...

... Raise awareness of the challenges and difficulties obstructions can cause.

... Encourage, residents, visitors, businesses, Community Councils and Town Councils to work together to make Ceredigion clutter free and accessible to all.

... Help us make Ceredigion an accessible and pleasant place which encourages people to visit, stay, enjoy and appreciate what it has to offer.

To do this we all need to work together - let's all Love Ceredigion

