

Proposed UTLC Paper No. 4/2001
Guidelines on Tactile Warning Strips at Manhole Covers

1. Background and Problem

Tactile Warning Strips for the visually disabled people will be applied to a number of public roads/crossings including newly constructed or retrofitted dropped kerbs, which will have dropped kerb height of 15mm instead of 25mm. Nevertheless, It is noticed that these strips will likely encroach upon manhole covers (e.g. utility manhole covers). TD has advised that the tactile warning strips has to be continuous across the manhole covers. A clear guideline about such interface is necessary.

2. Proposal

Generally, the interface will be on paving block, concrete or bituminous road surfaces. Other types of interface should follow the same principle as shown below:

- 2.1 In all cases, consideration should first be made as to whether the manhole maintenance party should be asked to relocate the manhole cover or make necessary utility diversion, taking into account the site constraints, possible disruption, and programme.
- 2.2 Where the above is not practicable, the following shall be adopted:

	Manhole \geq 400mm in either dimension	Manhole $<$ 400mm in both dimensions (Also see Note 2.4)
Paving Block	Manhole maintenance party provides and constructs recessed cover with paving blocks and tactile warning strips provided by HyD	Manhole maintenance party provides and constructs non-standard recessed cover with paving blocks and tactile warning strips provided by HyD
Concrete	Manhole maintenance party provides and constructs concrete in-fill recessed cover embedding tactile warning strips provided by HyD	Manhole maintenance party provides and constructs non-standard concrete in-fill recessed cover embedding tactile warning strips provided by HyD
Bituminous material	Manhole maintenance party provides and constructs bituminous material in-fill recessed cover embedding tactile warning strips provided by HyD	Manhole maintenance party provides and constructs non-standard bituminous material in-fill recessed cover embedding tactile warning strips provided by HyD

- 2.3 Detailed designs of pedestrian crossing with 15mm dropped kerb and tactile warning strip (revision of Drg. H1117), and recessed manhole covers are required.
- 2.4 For manhole $<$ 400mm in both dimensions, it may not be practicable to provide recessed covers. A possible alternative is to permit the tactile warning strip to become discontinuous at such small manhole covers. Advice from CHE/R&D and TD are required.

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