

Roadside Cabinet and Pedestal Placement

Review process and frequently asked questions

Enable's network deployment requires the installation of roadside telecommunications cabinets and pedestals on Council land across our network coverage area. These cabinets and pedestals are core parts of Enable's fibre broadband network and are critical to providing fibre broadband services to the Christchurch community.

Where a cabinet or pedestal is required on the Council land outside a residential or commercial property, Enable's network build partner, the Network Delivery Alliance (NDA), advises the property owner of the plans and, when required, works with them to agree the location outside their property.

The NDA will conduct a review of its plans at the request of a property owner. This may include meeting with the property owner and considering alternative locations outside the same property. The NDA will provide the property owner with the decision on placement as part of the review.

Final review of a planned cabinet or pedestal placement

On rare occasion the NDA will determine it has reached an impasse in its discussions with a property owner. If this occurs the NDA will ask Enable to do a final assessment of its review and the selected location.

You can also contact Enable directly at complaints@enable.net.nz if you believe the NDA has not adequately considered alternative locations outside your property.

Enable will advise the property owner directly of the outcome of its review and the final decision on placement of the cabinet or pedestal.

Below are a number of questions and answers that may help you to determine whether to ask Enable to conduct a review of a cabinet or pedestal placement plan.

Common questions property owners have about cabinet and pedestal locations

Q How does Enable select the location for a cabinet or pedestal?

Selecting the location of cabinets and pedestals is a multi-stage process that forms part of the detailed design of Enable's network.

Enable uses design software that automatically completes the high-level design of the network (including the placement of cabinets and pedestals) to ensure the network can be deployed effectively and efficiently. These designs are then refined by the NDA Team and the specific cabinet and pedestal location outside each property is determined. This process includes consideration of the location to minimise any impact on the property and any community impact.

Q Under what circumstances will Enable consider an alternative location outside my property?

Enable recognises that the placement of a cabinet or pedestal can impact properties in different ways, therefore it considers moving a cabinet or pedestal location on a case-by-case basis.

Enable has moved cabinets or pedestals to a different location outside the same property for a variety of reasons. The reasons range from a property owner being able to demonstrate advanced plans to develop a property to an alternative location making the cabinet or pedestal less visible from within the property.

Enable and the NDA will try to accommodate all reasonable requests to relocate the cabinet or pedestal to another location outside your property, but cannot guarantee that the location can be changed.

Q Does Enable or the NDA need my permission to place a cabinet or pedestal outside my property?

As a utility provider, Enable is not required to gain an individual property owner's permission to place a cabinet or pedestal on the Council owned land outside a private property.

In saying this, Enable works with property owners to ensure any placement has a minimal impact on the property and to gain their acceptance of the location.

Q Will Enable still place the cabinet or pedestal even if I refuse to accept the plans?

As cabinets and pedestals are critical to delivering fibre broadband to the community, Enable will place a cabinet and pedestal outside a private property without acceptance from the property owner where necessary. We work with owners to avoid this from occurring.

Q Does Enable need resource consent to place a cabinet or pedestal outside my property?

No, Enable does not need resource consent to place a cabinet or pedestal on the Council owned land outside your property.

Cabinets and pedestals are 'low-impact telecommunications facilities' under the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities) Regulations 2008. Resource consent is not required for the placement of low-impact telecommunications facilities on the roadside.

Further information can be found here: <http://rma.govt.nz/publications/rma/environmental-standards-telecommunication-facilities-your-neighbourhood-information>.

Q Will Enable move a cabinet or pedestal away from my property to outside another property?

Enable will work with property owners to try to move a cabinet or pedestal to an acceptable location along the front of the same property.

It is Enable's policy not to move a cabinet or pedestal away from the property selected in the design process.

Q Why will Enable not move a cabinet or pedestal away from my property to outside another property?

Over 2,000 cabinets and pedestals are required to be installed to deliver fibre broadband to the greater Christchurch community.

The position of each of these cabinets and pedestals is carefully selected as part of a complex network design. Moving them away from the selected location can have a significant impact on the architecture and deployment of the network.

Q Does Enable provide compensation to property owners when they place a cabinet or pedestal outside their property?

Cabinets and pedestals are considered 'low-impact telecommunications facilities' under the National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities, so Enable is acting within its rights by placing a cabinet or pedestal on the Council owned land outside a private property.

Enable is not required to and does not provide compensation to property owners for placing a cabinet and pedestal outside their property.

Q What proof is Enable required to provide me that my property is the only location for a cabinet or pedestal?

As Enable is legally entitled to place cabinets and pedestals on Council owned land outside private property, it is not required to prove a selected location is the only viable location.