

Controlled Parking Schemes - Frequently Asked Questions

Why introduce a parking scheme?

A number of locations the City are popular for long stay commuter parking because it is close to the city centre and is free and unrestricted. This leads to a lack of parking opportunities for customers of local businesses as well as for local residents.

What does a controlled parking scheme look like?

There are usually large signs on both sides of the road to show you are entering or leaving an area. The signs also show the times that the scheme operates. Where vehicles can park is usually shown by a broken white line bay marking. No parking will be permitted outside of the formal bays and double yellow lines (No waiting at any time restriction) will stop this. A few locations are not suited to marking out formal bays, often where the road is made up of blocks. These locations will have signs at their entry points.

Will the parking scheme guarantee I will get a parking space?

It is not possible to guarantee a space even with a permit. However, the proposed parking controls would make it easier for residents to find a space by reducing the numbers of commuters who park all day.

There isn't a problem with parking on my road why is it included?

When parking is controlled in an area some people will move elsewhere to avoid paying. The boundary of the area is drawn to try and make sure that people will not simply move to another road and cause problems there.

What happens if I have problems parking once parking is controlled?

Every new area needs to settle in and for people to get used to how it operates. New areas are usually reviewed after 6 to 9 months. From the feedback and information we gather, we might change the area covered or the cost for pay and display parking.

My street has a problem with parking, but it is not included in the controlled zone. Can the area be extended to cover my street?

If the area has not had its formal operational review then it may be possible to revise the scheme boundary. This would be subject to gathering evidence of the impact on your street(s) and after a formal consultation process with all residents affected.

I pay council and vehicle tax, why do I have to pay for a permit as well?

Your council tax pays for a wide range of essential services required by all residents across the City. This scheme is an additional service over and above the Council's basic provision and is specifically designed to help you and your neighbours. For these reasons we believe that the people who benefit should pay towards the costs. The money from parking charges and permits would go towards the cost of administering the permit scheme, enforcement and towards developing similar schemes in other areas of the City.

I have a lot of passing trade. Having to pay to park for a short time will put them off

The parking areas are set up to allow a free stop of 20 minutes. People need to visit the nearest meter to get a ticket to display.

Can I pay by instalments, it is very costly to purchase 2 permits in one?

Not currently but the option to pay in instalments is being investigated.

Can I get a permit for a vehicle not registered at my property?

To apply for a permit, the vehicle must be registered with the DVLA at the address for which the permit is required. However, we can issue a permit to a lease vehicle or company car. proof must be provided to show that the vehicle is leased to you. A lease agreement or a letter on a headed paper from your company is accepted.

Does the Council make a surplus from controlled parking zones?

No, the income from parking tickets and permits repays the cost of introducing new parking schemes and future reviews, the cost of maintenance of signs and lines and contributes towards the enforcement.

How will the new parking zone be monitored and enforced?

On a day to day basis, the council's Parking Services will monitor the area for unlawful parking. This will be done by Civil Enforcement Officers who work for the council.