



**You asked us to tackle
parking stress in West Dartford**

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DARTFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

In Autumn 2007 we asked thousands of households in and around Dartford's town centre 'Does parking drive you mad?' – you won't be surprised to know the answer from many was a resounding YES!

We had more than one thousand responses and they have been used to develop parking management proposals. However, we would still like your views because no final decisions have been made yet and we have agreed that we will not introduce any parking management schemes where the majority of residents do not support them.

What do I do now?

Please read through this leaflet, complete the short survey attached and return it by 11 September 2009. The proposals are also available online at www.dartford.gov.uk/roads/ParkingManagementProjectDetails.htm and you can complete the same survey there too.

What you have told us so far

Commuters parking in residential roads to get to the station, the town centre and to schools seems to be the main issue.

Since the last survey, we have been putting together some parking management proposals that tackle the problem of commuter related and inconsiderate parking.

Your feedback showed us that the key principles which should guide the plans are:

- Provide as many parking spaces as possible for residents and their visitors.
- Make sure cars are parked safely and legally – benefiting all highway users including pedestrians and cyclists.
- Prevent commuters' cars being moved on to neighbouring streets.
- Offer suitable parking and travel alternatives for commuters.

The proposals for your area are detailed on the map overleaf and as many of you have asked, they will include:

- Reduce your parking competition so that you have a better chance of parking near your home.
- Reduce highway obstruction problems so that emergency and service vehicles are not delayed by inconsiderately parked vehicles.
- Reduce highway obstruction problems so that pedestrians including parents with push-chairs, blind people and those in wheelchairs can move freely on the pavements.

There are some streets further from the town centre where residents do not currently compete with non-residents and so understandably, these residents have been less supportive of parking

management proposals. However, introducing a parking management scheme in one area may have the effect of moving non-resident parking to streets where there are no parking controls and this is often the case with the introduction of parking management schemes.

Where the vast majority of residents in an area choose not to introduce parking management, the Council has no wish to impose them, however that choice is unlikely to be reviewed for at least three years.

What is being proposed?

On-street parking related problems cannot be solved by small scale tinkering as this simply moves the problems around. Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) offer the best opportunity to meet the parking needs of local communities including residents and businesses.

CPZs are areas in which all kerb-space is controlled by either yellow lines or parking bays, which includes bays for residents' cars. CPZs are often called resident parking zones because they are used where there are too many cars parked on-street, and so parking spaces are prioritised for residents and their visitors. A charge is made for permits which covers the cost of administration and enforcement, but no profit is allowed to be made from the operation of such schemes.

The CPZ proposals include a mixture of double yellow lines, single yellow lines, limited waiting bays, disabled persons parking bays, permit parking bays and pay-and-display bays.

How would a permit scheme work?

General

- One permit per household is issued for use with one vehicle and the permit displays the vehicle registration number it can be used for and the parking zone it can be used in.
- A valid permit must be displayed in the vehicle's windscreen when parked in a designated permit parking bay during the time of parking bay operation.
- Failure to display a permit as required during the time of parking bay operation will result in the issue of a penalty charge notice (PCN).
- Solo motorcycles and scooters may park in designated bays without a permit.

Residents parking permits

- Households are entitled to apply for one parking permit for the zone in which they live, unless they have off-street parking.
- A charge of £50 is payable upon application and annually thereafter.
- Blue badge holder residents with or without access to disabled persons parking bays will need to purchase a residents parking permit.

Visitor parking permits

- All households may obtain daily permits for their visitors, which when displayed allow their visitors' cars to be left in resident permit parking bays.
- Households may purchase up to five books of five permits per month at a cost of £5 per book.

Temporary parking permits

- Residents may apply for a temporary parking permit for the zone in which they live.
- The purpose of temporary permit issue is to allow households with more than one car to leave their additional vehicles in permit parking bays whilst they are away from home for more than one day when it is not possible to replace expired visitor permits.
- One temporary permit per vehicle may be bought in lieu of visitor parking permit allocation at a cost of £1 a day plus a £5 administration fee.

Trade service providers

- Trades people may apply for a temporary parking permit (or a dispensation certificate) for the zone in which work will be undertaken.
- The purpose of temporary permit issue is to allow a trades persons' vehicle to be left in designated permit parking bays whilst completing work at a residents' property.
- The purpose of a dispensation certificate is to allow a trades persons' vehicle to be left on a parking restriction (double or single yellow line)

as long as the vehicle does not obstruct other highway users from passing.

- A temporary permit or dispensation certificate may be purchased at a cost of £5 per day or £15 per week plus a £5 administration fee.

Ward specific proposals

Town

- Single yellow lines proposed for traffic movement and safety reasons will be effective between 8am and 6pm Monday to Saturday.
- Permits will be required for parking in Residents Permit Parking Bays Monday to Saturday 9.30am-4pm.
- The limited waiting bays will be effective Monday to Saturday 8am-6pm for thirty minutes waiting with no return within two hours.
- Pay-and-display bays will be effective Monday to Saturday 8am-6pm with charges proposed at £2 up to four hours and £4 for more than four hours.

West Hill

- Single yellow lines proposed for traffic movement and safety reasons will be effective between 8am and 6pm Monday to Saturday.
- Permits will be required for parking in Residents Permit Parking Bays on Priory Hill Monday to Saturday 9.30am-4pm. The Residents Permit Parking Bays in the remainder of West Hill ward will be effective Monday to Friday 9.30am-4pm.
- The limited waiting bays will be effective Monday to Saturday 8am-6pm for either two or four hours waiting with no return within four hours.
- Pay-and-display bays will be effective Monday to Saturday 8am-6pm with charges proposed at £2 up to four hours and £4 for more than four hours.

Princes

- Permits will be required for parking in Residents Permit Parking Bays Monday to Saturday 9.30am-4pm.
- The limited waiting bays will be effective Monday to Saturday 8am-6pm for two hours waiting with no return within four hours.
- Pay-and-display bays will be effective Monday to Saturday 8am-6pm with charges proposed at £2 up to four hours and £4 for more than four hours.

