



**You asked us
to tackle
parking stress
in Greenhithe**

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www.dartford.gov.uk/roads

DARTFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

This is what we're proposing

In Autumn 2007 we asked Greenhithe residents 'Does parking drive you mad?' – you won't be surprised to know the answer from your neighbours was a resounding YES!

The key issues include commuter parking in local roads because of the close proximity to the railway stations and access to the town centre for shopping and recreation. Whilst neither issue is illegal we know that it can cause stress on families who want to park as close as possible to their homes.

Since the results were analysed we've been putting together a series of parking management proposals to tackle the problem of commuter and inconsiderate parking in Greenhithe.

The key principles guiding the plans are that we want to:

- maximise the number of parking spaces for residents and their visitors
- make sure cars are parked safely and legally – benefitting all users including pedestrians and cyclists
- offer suitable and accessible alternatives for commuters

The proposals for your area are detailed on the map overleaf – with a useful key to identify proposed changes and improvements. The proposals aim to:

- manage the competition for kerb-space so that you have a better chance of parking near to where you live
- address highway obstruction problems so that emergency and service vehicles are less likely to be delayed by inconsiderately parked vehicles.

No profit is made from the operation of parking schemes.

The proposals are available online at www.dartford.gov.uk/parkingchanges and you can provide comments there too. Alternatively, why not come to the drop-in session to find out more:

- Saturday 17 January 2009, 10am-12noon in the ASDA Café, Greenhithe

Before starting work on new parking schemes we have to follow government guidance and carry out a review of existing 'parking' and 'waiting' controls to ensure compliance with relevant regulations. We've already carried out the review and whilst a few changes are needed in some streets, for example 'time plates' for yellow lines, most of the changes we need to make are paper-based. We're telling you this to make sure there's no confusion between us bringing existing controls up to date and the new proposals overleaf.

What we can do to help

(the terms we use and the small print you want to know)

Being a council you'd expect us to use acronyms, abbreviations and jargon. Hopefully this explains it better so you can comment on our proposals.

What is a Controlled Parking Zone?

A Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) is a geographic area in which all kerb-space is controlled by either yellow lines or designated parking bays, including resident bays. CPZs are often referred to as resident parking zones because they are used for situations where on-street parking is severely congested and the kerb-space is managed appropriately predominantly for the benefit of residents and their visitors. A charge for permits is applied to cover the cost of administration and enforcement, but no profit is made from the operation of such schemes.

Why is the council proposing the introduction of CPZs?

The number of responses to the 2007 consultation in your area revealed that the problem of parking cannot be solved through

small scale tinkering – part of the solution requires a major, strategic overhaul of parking controls.

A CPZ offers the best opportunity to meet local residents' needs and improve the parking situation in one swoop.

CPZ parking management options

CPZs can be implemented in different ways. The options proposed include a mixture of the following as appropriate.

- **Double yellow lines (DYLs)**
DYLs are proposed where it is inappropriate for vehicles to be left at any time day or night, such as at junctions.
- **Single yellow lines (SYLs)**
SYLs are proposed where streets are too narrow to accommodate vehicles parking on both sides of the carriageway.
- **Limited waiting bays (WBs)**
Waiting bays allow drivers to park their cars free of charge in accordance with the times detailed on the signs; e.g. up to four hours.

- **Disabled persons parking bay (DPPB)**

DPPBs are usually installed on-street at the request of residents with blue badges. Any blue badge holder is entitled to park in a DPPB in accordance with the conditions of the blue badge and the bay operation times as applicable.

- **Resident permit parking bays (RPPBs)**

RPPBs prioritise on-street car parking for residents and their visitors. Kerb-side parking is reserved for permit holders, their visitors (with 'scratch-card' permits) and tradesmen (with a temporary permit or dispensation certificate). This solution removes residents' competition by preventing non-resident related parking.

- **Business permit parking bays (BPPBs)**

BPPBs are installed where business owners and managers need to park near to their 'shop' for business operational reasons. The bays are not intended to be long stay parking spaces because they're often sited in the carriageway where long stay parking would negatively impact efficient highway operation.

General note for yellow line proposals

Residents are often concerned about yellow line proposals designed to promote correct highway use i.e. keep cars on the carriageway and pedestrians on the footway. Residents often cite a lack of parking provision as a reason not to introduce such measures. However, the objective of the strategic kerb-space management approach is to prioritise on-street parking provision for residents and their visitors, which means that the residents' competition for kerb-space is removed. Typically, the competition is the commuter (rail-based or otherwise) and/or shoppers and the strategic proposals aim to provide 'long stay' parking in managed on-street and off-street car parking areas, which then releases back to the residents the on-street car parking spaces non-residents currently occupy.

How would a permit scheme work?

General

- A permit is issued for use with one vehicle only and the permit displays the vehicle registration number it can be used for and the parking zone in which it can be used.
- Proof of vehicle ownership is required at the time of application for a permit. The documents accepted as proof are limited to:
 - the vehicle's registration document; or
 - a valid Certificate of Motor Insurance.
- Permits must be displayed in the vehicle's windscreen when parked in a designated resident parking bay in the permitted zone 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).

Residents parking permits

- Residents are entitled to apply for a parking permit for the zone in which they live.
- A charge of £50 is payable upon application and annually thereafter.
- Proof of residency is required at the time of application and the documents accepted as proof are:
 - the current year Council Tax statement; and
 - a utility bill or a tenancy/mortgage agreement dated not more than twelve weeks prior to the application date.
- Data protection laws do not permit the exchange of 'personal information' between departments and therefore a Council Tax statement must be provided by the applicant.
- Blue badge holder residents with disabled persons parking bays (DPPBs) within CPZs will need to purchase a residents parking permit.

Business parking permits

- Business owners are entitled to apply for a parking permit for the zone in which their business is located.
- A charge of £300 is payable upon application and annually thereafter.
- Proof of business ownership or management is required at the time of application and the document accepted as proof is:
 - the business rates bill.

Visitor parking permits

- All residents can obtain daily permits for their visitors. The permits allow visitors to park in designated resident permit parking bays.
- Permits can be purchased in books of five at £5 per book. Residents are restricted to the purchase of four books per month.
- Proof of residency is required at the time of purchase and the documents accepted as proof are:
 - the current year Council Tax statement; and
 - a utility bill or a tenancy/mortgage agreement dated not more than twelve weeks prior to the application date.
- Data protection laws do not permit the exchange of 'personal information' between departments and therefore a Council Tax statement must be provided by the applicant.

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 a second household vehicle to be left in designated permit parking bays whilst residents are away from home for a period of more than one day when it is not possible to replace expired visitor permits.
- A temporary permit may be purchased in lieu of visitor parking permit allocation at a cost of £1 per day plus a £5 administration fee.
- Proof of residency is required at the time of application and the documents accepted as proof are:
 - the current year Council Tax statement; and
 - a utility bill or a tenancy/mortgage agreement dated not more than twelve weeks prior to the application date.
- Data protection laws do not permit the exchange of 'personal information' between departments and therefore a Council Tax statement must be provided by the applicant.

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.
- Proof of vehicle ownership is required at the time of application and the documents accepted as proof are limited to:
 - the vehicle's registration document; or
 - the vehicle's lease document; and
 - a valid Certificate of Motor Insurance.
- Permits or dispensation certificates must be displayed in the vehicle's windscreen when parked in a designated resident parking bay in the permitted zone during the time of parking bay operation or on yellow lines.
- Failure to display a permit or dispensation certificate as required will result in the issue of a penalty charge notice (PCN).

Our plan for your area

GREENHITHE WARD

- The SYL proposals will be effective for only one hour between 11:00 and 12:00 Monday to Friday.
- Permits will be required for parking in the proposed RPPBs Monday to Friday 09:30 – 16:00 and 19:00 – 20:00. The evening operation is proposed in order to ensure as far as possible that residents' cars are parked before the pubs begin to get busy.
- The limited waiting bays will be effective Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00 for 4 hours waiting with no return within 4 hours.
- Pay-and-display bays will be effective Monday to Friday 08:00 to 18:00.

CASTLE WARD

- The SYL proposals will be effective for only one hour between 11:00 and 12:00 Monday to Friday.
- Permits will be required for parking in the proposed RPPBs Monday to Friday 09:30 – 16:00.
- The limited waiting bays will be effective Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00 for 4 hours waiting with no return within 4 hours.
- Pay-and-display bays will be effective Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00.

STONE WARD

- Permits will be required for parking in the proposed RPPBs Monday to Friday 09:30 – 16:00.
- The limited waiting bays will be effective Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00 for 4 hours waiting with no return within 4 hours.

What do I do now?

- **Visit the drop-in session on Saturday 17 January from 10am to 12 noon at the ASDA Café, Greenhithe.**
- **Go online at www.dartford.gov.uk/parkingchanges**

If there are no substantial objections we'll go to the next stage of statutory consultation.

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BOROUGH COUNCIL

Produced by Dartford Borough Council
Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent DA1 1DR
Tel: 01322 343434 Web: www.dartford.gov.uk/roads