

Resident Permit Parking Scheme Briefing Note July 2008

CCBC Policy For Resident Permit Parking Scheme

BRIEFING NOTE

This briefing note sets out how requests from residents are assessed, the key criteria and issues relating to the Council's Policy on Resident Permit Parking schemes.

The Policy has been in existence since the beginning of this Authority in 1996 but was last reviewed in 2006 via a report to the Regeneration Scrutiny on the 27th July 2006 (the report and minutes are available on the Council's website). The recommendations were endorsed by the Committee and subsequently approved by the Council's Cabinet on the 5th September 2006.

The resident permit parking scheme is intended to respond to residents concerns in circumstances where there is limited available on-street parking (and generally no available off-street parking) that is under pressure from non-residential parking.

Assessment Criteria

Applications for resident permit parking schemes should be received in writing from residents, or their elected County Councillors, to the Engineering Division at Pontllanfraith House, Blackwood. Requests will be limited to residential areas where:

- a) At least 50% of properties are unable to provide reasonable off-street parking.
- b) Are immediately adjacent to major shopping areas, large employment sites, main transport interchanges and colleges.
- c) The expected displacement of parking to adjacent streets must be acceptable.
- d) It is expected that at least 80% of residents support the introduction of a resident permit parking scheme having been made aware of all the restrictions and charges that apply.

Need

Any request for residents permit parking must be supported by parking surveys that show:

- a) The problems for residents occur for at least four hours at a time and at least twice in most weeks.
- b) Residents must have to park some distance from their properties. The measure normally applied will be at least 85% of spaces occupied for the above periods.
- c) The non-resident element of parking must be at least 25%.

Restrictions of the Scheme

The following restrictions apply to any resident permit parking scheme:

- a) Times of Operation: Monday to Saturdays, 8.00 am to 6.00 pm as a maximum restriction. This can be reduced depending on the local circumstances.
- b) Charges: £30 per permit per vehicle (registered at the property) per annum. Vans and large vehicles (over 1.5 tonnes), caravans etc. are not eligible.
- c) Only one permit per qualifying property will be issued.
- d) Those properties whose hardstands or garages fronting on to areas of resident parking will not be eligible for a permit.
- e) Issue of business permits may be permitted where considered appropriate and supported by the ward Members (at a charge of £75 per permit per annum).
- f) Disabled badge holders are exempt from the resident parking regulations.

Issues to Consider

Enforcement of any resident permit scheme is a police function. To be successful adequate police enforcement is required. The general police view is to accept the times of operation and that they will do their best to enforce them. Actual enforcement may vary from area to area and is a matter for

each respective police Inspector to prioritise. Enforcement outside of normal working hours, Monday to Saturday, is likely to receive a low priority.

Residents permit parking schemes are not an answer to a situation where the number of residents' vehicles exceeds the available on-street parking provision. Residences owning more than one vehicle will still only be eligible for one permit.

Visitor parking: no formal provision is made for the issue of permits to visitors. However, an informal arrangement to issue visitor permits valid for up to two weeks will be considered where such permits are not known to cause an unreasonable problem for residents. Where it is known to cause a problem then no visitor permits will be issued.

Where resident permit parking is introduced consideration has to be given to prevent obstructive parking, provide some parking for visitors and to make provision for local businesses. The combination of parking restrictions will be determined for each location following consultation with those affected. Normally the introduction of resident parking bays will result in there being available less than one space per property. If fully subscribed, residents will have little chance of parking outside their own homes but should be able to park nearby. When all residents are home, even that may not be possible.

Carers: consideration will be given to issuing permits for paid carers only.

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