

Frequently Asked Questions

Permit Parking areas and Controlled Parking Zones

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Example of a Permit Parking Area signage	Example of a Controlled Parking Zone signage and road markings
	
<p>Examples of Parking Permit Areas are located nearby on Beresford Road and Dunbar Road.</p>	<p>An example of a Controlled Parking Zone scheme is located nearby on Gloucester Road and surrounding roads.</p>

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How does a resident Permit Parking Area (PPA) work?

Permit parking is intended to help residents and their guests find somewhere to park during the days and times that the scheme is in operation. During those times only vehicles displaying a valid resident permit or a valid visitor permit are allowed to park in the permit areas / permit parking bays. This makes it more likely that permit holders will be able to find somewhere to park, although it cannot guarantee a space.

What is a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ)?

In a CPZ, permits are required, operational hours are enforced and bays are marked. They can operate all day or for a shorter period of time.

What is the difference between a CPZ and a PPA?

CPZs and PPAs are very similar as they both require a permit to park during the operational hours.

The most important difference between the two permit schemes is that CPZs limit permit holders to specific parking bays and include single yellow line restrictions across dropped kerbs, whereas PPAs typically do not have any road markings.

When do Permit Parking restrictions apply?

This will vary from scheme to scheme, depending on the particular circumstances and the problems that the scheme is designed to solve. For example, during the working day, the restrictions could apply Monday to Saturday from 8.30am to 6pm. In this case the restrictions would match those of the existing PPA roads of Beresford Road and Dunbar Road - which are Mon - Sat, 8am - 6.30pm, Sunday, 11am - 5pm.

What about blue badge holders?

Blue badge holders can park in the permit areas / bays for as long as they need provided their blue badge is displayed. They can also park on yellow lines - providing they are not causing an obstruction - for up to three hours, where they will also need to show their clock card. The Blue Badge must be displayed at all times.

Who is eligible for a resident permit?

Again, it may vary from scheme to scheme but in general, it is usually people who live at an address within the scheme area and whose car is registered at that address.

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How many permits can I have?

A resident's permit can be issued to anyone who is eligible for a permit within the PPA zone, who keeps a vehicle. Each resident may only apply for one permit, but there is no limit on the number of permits that can be issued per household.

Why is there a charge for permits?

This is to cover the administration and enforcement costs of the scheme. It is recognised good practice to charge for permits, because otherwise these costs are paid for by the general taxpayer, who may not drive, and who receives no benefit from the scheme.

Who does what?

The Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames, as the highway authority, is responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of the parking controls, parking strategy and policy.

APCOA, an outsourced contractor, currently manages the enforcement of parking schemes and the administration of PCNs and permits on behalf of Kingston Council.

How much do permits cost?

Parking charges are reviewed each year, but the price you pay won't change until your parking permit has expired.

What do I do if I get a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN)?

Generally, Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) employed by the borough and district council's parking team carry out enforcement of parking controls in their area. Like all motorists, residents need to park legally. If you receive a PCN you would need to follow the instructions on the back of it.

Can any type of vehicle have a permit?

A resident's permit can be issued to anyone who is eligible for a permit within the PPA scheme area, who keeps a vehicle. Each resident may only apply for one permit, but there is no limit on the number of permits that can be issued per household. Further information about parking permits can be found on the following link:

<https://www.kingston.gov.uk/parking-1/apply-parking-permits>

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What if I can't find a parking space?

We do all we can to try and ensure that the scheme has enough spaces to give all permit holders a reasonable chance of finding a space. We introduce these schemes to restrict parking by non-residents so that there should be more space available for the residents.

However, there is no way within the regulations to assign specific parking spaces on the highway to specific individuals; therefore, we cannot guarantee the availability of a parking space. If you could not find a space you would need to find an alternative legal parking space elsewhere, for example in a public car park or a non-restricted area.

What do I do about visitors and deliveries?

Any vehicles can park in the permit areas / bays to make deliveries, or load and unload, but only for as long as necessary and no longer than a maximum of 20 minutes. Residents within the scheme can purchase online visitor parking vouchers, which will allow them to park in the PPA zone during restricted hours. To use the vouchers, residents would need to activate each voucher through their online account. The information required is, the vehicle registration number (VRN), start date and time they would like the voucher to start would need to be specified.

Residents can buy the permits in hourly, 6 hourly or daily (24-hour) sessions with the minimum single purchase being 10 sessions, (Each household can only buy up to 200 sessions a year). Refunds are given for unused voucher sessions if you have 10 or more sessions remaining in your account.