

Parking and Civil Enforcement

What are the main changes with Civil Parking Enforcement?

- The Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) will now be based on proportionality. Parking on a yellow line will incur a higher penalty than simply over-staying in a parking place.
- Persistent evaders, who have three or more recorded contraventions for a vehicle which have gone unpaid, could have their vehicle immobilised or removed.
- Councils will be able to issue PCNs by post when camera evidence is available or when Civil Enforcement Officers are prevented from serving notices by threat, actual violence or motorists who simply drive away.
- Councils will also be able to enforce obstruction of dropped footways (areas lowered to form ramps for wheelchairs, baby buggies or vehicles) and double parking which can obstruct the flow of traffic. This is any parking more than 50cm away from the kerbside (other than in a dedicated parking bay). It is intended that this contravention will be used to enforce street parking more than one vehicle wide or other indiscriminate parking which impedes the flow of traffic.
- There will be an increased discount period for PCNs sent by post from 14 days to 21, except where violence or threats of violence prevented the service of the PCN, in which case it remains at 14 days.
- Independent adjudicators will have the power to refer cases back to Local Authorities where a parking contravention has taken place, and in mitigating circumstances they can ask the Local Authority Chief Executives to consider withdrawal of the PCN. They will also consider cases where the authority has not followed the correct procedures. Local Authorities have 35 days to respond to adjudicators, if they do not respond within this time the adjudicator's decision will be final.

Can I park on a single yellow line?

No, unless you park at a time when the regulations are not in force. The times of operation will be shown on adjacent signs usually located near to the kerbside. Parking for even short periods within these times is not permitted and you may be issued with a PCN.

Can I park on a yellow line if there are no signs or plates indicating times?

No, not all restrictions need a time plate. For example double yellow lines indicate "No Waiting at any Time" and do not require a time plate. Within the Birkenhead Controlled Parking Zone single yellow lines indicate "No waiting all days, 8am-6.30pm" and do not require a time plate. Don't take a chance, if in doubt park somewhere else.

Can I park on yellow lines to load or unload goods?

Normally, yes, vehicles stopping to load or unload goods are generally exempt from parking restrictions. However in some instances an order may specifically exclude such activities, such as when a loading ban is in force and indicated with signs and markings.

Can I stop on a yellow line drop a passenger off?

Again normally, yes, vehicles stopping to allow the dropping off or picking up of passengers are generally exempt from parking restrictions whilst undertaking such activities, however in some instances the order specifically excludes such activities, such as on School Keep Clear markings and pedestrian crossing zig-zags.

I am a medical professional and sometimes have to park on yellow lines to make urgent calls, will I receive a PCN?

Emergency medical and health care workers are encouraged to apply for dispensation notices which may be used in residents parking areas. Requests for dispensation notices should be emailed to parking.engineer@wirral.gov.uk. Requests will be initially assessed, if suitable an application form will be emailed to the applicant, if not the person will be emailed back to say that they would not qualify for a parking dispensation.

Can I get a permit to park on yellow lines whilst carrying out building works etc?

Temporary permits to allow parking for building works, house removals etc. may be available. Applications are assessed on an individual basis subject to traffic management and safety considerations. [View scheme rules and how to apply.](#)

Only vehicles directly and actively involved in the construction/removal activities would be eligible in these circumstances. Vehicles must not be parked so as to cause an obstruction and must be moved if directed by a Civil Enforcement Officer or Police Officer. Vehicles used to transport staff and workers are not eligible and must abide by any regulations in force.

Can I get a permit to park in a resident parking bay whilst carrying out building works etc?

Temporary waivers to allow parking for building works, etc may be available. Applications are assessed on an individual basis. [View scheme rules and how to apply.](#)

Only vehicles directly and actively involved in the construction/removal activities would be eligible in these circumstances. Vehicles must not be parked so as to cause an obstruction and must be moved if directed by a Civil Enforcement Officer or Police Officer. Vehicles used to transport staff and workers are not eligible and must abide by any regulations in force.

Will I receive a PCN for parking on the pavement or verge?

You can receive a PCN if you park partly or wholly on a pavement or verge that is adjacent to yellow lines or if a no footway/verge parking order is present and indicated by signs.

If you park a Heavy Goods Vehicle on a pavement or verge you may receive a PCN even if no yellow lines exist. Parking on footways obstructs the way for pedestrians and causes damage to the surface and equipment underneath.

If I receive a PCN will I get penalty points on my driving licence?

No. Penalty points are only applicable to certain driving offences dealt with by the Police under criminal law.