

Changes in Parking in Harrogate District July 2002

Decriminalised Parking

On the 15th July 2002, Harrogate Borough Council, as agents for the North Yorkshire County Council, take over the enforcement of parking restrictions in the District from the North Yorkshire Police.

Why the change in Enforcement?

Increased traffic congestion and dangerous and illegal parking are causing problems for all road users. Residents and visitors have expressed concern about parking problems and the change in enforcement will enable the Council to:

- Reduce traffic congestion
- Improve road and pedestrian safety
- Improve access for public transport and cyclists

How will the Council enforce the restrictions?

From 15th July 2002, under the powers of the Road Traffic Act 1991, enforcement will be undertaken by Parking Attendants employed by the Council. They will enforce all yellow lines and other waiting restrictions in the District. Motorists who fail to comply with the parking restrictions (indicated by signs and road markings on the street and in Council car parks) will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN). (North Yorkshire Police will continue to issue Fixed Penalty Notices to motorists parking on Zig-zag markings and other motoring offences.)



Pavement Parking

Pavements and verges are part of the public highway and are covered by any yellow lines in the carriageway alongside them. Parking on a pavement or verge in order to avoid parking on yellow lines is therefore still a contravention and a PCN will be issued.

Representations & Appeals

Motorists who feel that a PCN has been wrongly issued have the right to make a representation to the Council. An independent officer of the Council will assess their case and if it is found that the PCN was wrongly issued, it will be cancelled with no payment needed. However If the Council feels that the PCN was correctly issued then we will write to the motorist with the decision and reasons.

The Council will also tell them at this stage how they can make an appeal to an independent adjudicator at the National Parking Adjudication Service (NPAS). The adjudicator will consider the case, either by post or at a personal hearing, and their decision will be final.

Note that appeals can only be made on the following grounds:

- you were not the owner/keeper of the vehicle at the time of the contravention;
- the contravention did not occur;
- the vehicle was taken without your consent;
- the traffic order was invalid;
- you are a hire firm and can provide the name of the hirer;
- if the penalty exceeded the relevant amount.

Disabled Badge Holders

Disabled badge holders can park free of charge in all of the Council's off-street car parks. When parking on street, a disabled badge holder may:

- Park for an unrestricted length of time in any parking place
- Park for a maximum period of three hours on Single or Double yellow lines, providing that their vehicle does not cause an obstruction to other traffic or pedestrians.

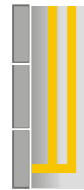


Disabled badge holders must **not**:

- Cause an obstruction - either at a junction or where this may prevent traffic from moving freely along any road.
- Park where a loading or unloading restriction is in operation.
- Park in a Taxi rank, Loading bay, Bus Stop Clearway or School 'Keep Clear' marking.

Please check all signs and road markings when parking your vehicle.

Some examples of parking restrictions and road markings in common use in the District are shown below:



Waiting prohibited 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for at least 4 consecutive months.



Waiting prohibited during days and times indicated.



Limited waiting sign with a white 'bay' marking.



Waiting prohibited 7am - 7pm except buses.

Further information

For further information about parking in the Harrogate District, or for more copies of this leaflet, please contact:

Parking Services
Department of Technical Services
Harrogate Borough Council
Knapping Mount
West Grove Road
HARROGATE HG1 2AE

Open Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Alternatively, more information can be found on the Council's website at: <http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/carparking>

For general enquiries call: **01423 500600**