

Information on Controlled Parking Zones and FAQs

What is a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ)?

In a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) parking is only permitted in designated parking bays, and the remainder of the kerbside space is subject to yellow line restrictions. Residents need to purchase permits if they, or their visitors, wish to park in the designated bays during the scheme's operational hours. The CPZ is intended to give permit holders priority use of on-street parking spaces during the scheme's operational hours. However, it does not guarantee a reserved parking space. The main objective is to discourage commuter and long stay parking by people from outside the area. To ensure that this works fairly, CPZs are enforced by uniformed Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs).

How are the times of parking restrictions for a CPZ decided?

In deciding the hours of operation of a CPZ, officers consider the results of parking occupancy surveys and the preference of local residents expressed through their representations and through public consultation. The Council also needs to consider the operational practicality of enforcement. The Council usually offers the following options in the questionnaires for residents and businesses to select when responding to a CPZ consultation.

10.00 am - 3.00 pm, Monday - Friday (for a shorter period)

8.30 am - 6.30pm, Monday - Friday (for all day controls)

10.00 am - 9pm, Monday - Friday (for longer controls)

Consultees also have the opportunity to state their preference if they are not happy with the options listed above.

The consultation will also ask about days of operation; and the inclusion of Saturday or Sunday and Bank Holiday restrictions are also optional.

What is the purpose of a CPZ?

The purpose of CPZs is not to raise revenue, but to improve road safety and parking facilities for local people. The process of implementing, managing and enforcing any CPZ scheme incurs significant costs. Permit income generated by the scheme is used to maintain and enforce the CPZ. In accordance with the law any surplus income from parking enforcement is used to supplement relevant transport services within the borough, for example by ensuring we can cover the cost of the Freedom Pass. In a CPZ parking bays are provided in places where it is safe for vehicles to park, and the rest of the kerb side within the zone is subject to yellow line restrictions.

What are the different types of parking bays?

Permit holder bays - these are bays designated for all valid permits, or particular types of permit as specified on the signs e.g. 'resident permit holders only' or 'business permits only.'

Pay & Display and Pay by Phone bays - these are bays designated for short stay visits to businesses or homes in a CPZ area. They are designed to ensure that there is a regular turnover of parking spaces. Motorists who wish to park in the Zone may do by paying by mobile device such as a phone or at designated pay & display bays, or by purchasing a ticket from a pay & display machine and displaying it on the windscreen of their vehicle. The parking charges are shown on the pay & display machines. These machines will only accept payment up to the maximum permitted length of stay. Resident's permits are not valid in 'pay & display only' bays.

Shared use bays - these are parking bays which allow both permit holders and pay & display users to park. Permit holders must display a valid permit, and pay & display users must either pay by mobile phone or purchase a pay & display ticket.

Loading bays / loading and unloading loading bays are provided in CPZs where there is a need for vehicles to deliver or collect heavy or bulky goods. Loading and unloading is usually only permitted for a maximum period of 30 minutes in loading bays, although this limit can vary by location. Where loading restrictions do not apply, loading can also take place for up to 40 minutes.

Single yellow lines - single yellow lines indicate a parking prohibition (on specified days and times) within the controlled hours specified on zone entry signs, and also on the time plate usually on a lamp post or sign post adjacent to the single yellow line.

If different hours apply to the general hours for the zone, this will be indicated on the time plates.

Double yellow lines - indicates a 24-hour parking prohibition. All double yellow lines within Brent operate seven days a week, including bank holidays. Time plate signs are not required for double yellow restrictions.

Who can apply for permits in a CPZ?

In a CPZ you need a permit to park. Residents and businesses within the zone, except those living in a car-free development, can buy permits.

- Residents within the CPZ can buy up to 3 residents parking permits per household to allow them to park in a resident parking bays, shared use bays and permit holder bays.
- Businesses within a CPZ can buy up to 3 business parking permits to allow them to park in shared use bays and permit holder parking bays.

How much do the resident parking permits cost?

Parking permit costs are now based on vehicle's CO2 emissions. More information can be found online; [Parking permit costs | Brent Council](#)

How much do visitor permits cost?

Residents within a CPZ can currently buy a single household visitor's parking permit to allow a specified regular visitor to park in resident parking bays, shared use bays and permit holder bays.

More information can be found at [Visitor parking session - Parking for your visitors in Brent | Brent Council](#)

How much do business permits cost?

A business parking permit is available to businesses that have a premises within a controlled parking zone. It allows the permit holder to park their vehicle in a permit holders parking bay within the zone that the premises is based in. More information can be found online at [Business permits | Brent Council](#)

What are the provisions for Blue Badge holders in a CPZ?

Blue badge holders can park free of charge by displaying their badge in a designated parking bay, including disabled persons parking bays, resident bays, permit holders bays, shared use bays, pay & display bays (all day), and also on single or double yellow line restrictions (so long as there are no loading restrictions) for up to 3 hours, where safe to do so and without causing an obstruction. More information can found online at [Blue badge parking | Brent Council](#)

Do motorcycles pay to park in a CPZ?

Solo motorcycles can park for free in

- pay & display parking bays
- resident parking bays
- shared use parking bays
- permit holder parking bays
- Council-owned car parks

More information can found at [Motorcycle parking | Brent Council](#)

Why and how do we enforce parking restrictions?

Parking enforcement is important to effectively manage parking. The Council seeks to ease congestion caused by inconsiderate parking, improve road safety, and prevent obstructions to pedestrians, cyclists, and bus stop access.

Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) patrol the whole of Brent to enforce parking restrictions. Particular attention is given to Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs). When a contravention is identified a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) will be placed on the windscreen of the car, handed directly to the driver or sent by post.

The Council works in partnership with NSL, the contractor responsible for parking management and enforcement.

Contraventions such as parking on yellow lines, bus stops, pedestrian crossings, grass verges and footways are enforced, as well as:

- parking in permit bays without displaying the correct permit
- parking in pay & display bays without paying the correct charge
- parking on school Keep Clear markings.

Moving Traffic Contraventions (such as yellow box junctions and banned turns), and parking at bus stops or on school Keep Clear markings, are enforced using CCTV cameras and CCTV equipped vehicles.

The Council also takes enforcement action against vehicles blocking driveways. More information can be found at [Where you can park | Brent Council](#)

Can I park across my own driveway during the hours of the CPZ?

No. This is because the single yellow lines outside a driveway are enforced during the operational hours of the CPZ. More information can be found at [Controlled Parking Zones | Brent Council](#)

How are parking contraventions enforced?

Parking penalties in London are set by London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee (TEC). This is made up from elected representatives of the 33 local authorities in London, as well as Transport for London. More information can be found at [Parking fines and penalty charge notices | Brent Council](#)

How can I report illegally parked vehicles?

Call 020 8290 8300 if you see parking rules being abused so our enforcement officers can investigate.

If a car is parked on a red route, please contact Transport for London.

If a vehicle is parked unlawfully and is obstructing access to your driveway, a disabled parking bay or on the footway, you can make an enforcement request between the hours of 8am to 9:30pm on any day except Christmas Day.

The vehicle removal service is operational from Monday to Saturday 7am to 5:50pm and Sundays 8am to 5:50pm.

The Car Pound is open 8am to 7pm.

Address: London Borough of Brent, NSL Car Pound, 10 Lumen Road, East Lane Business Park, Wembley, HA9 7RE.

For any queries relating to the above, please call 020 8290 8300 and select option 5.

Parking suspensions and dispensations:

It may become necessary to suspend parking bays and allow parking dispensation, for example, to facilitate road works where the spaces are needed to carry out works or accommodate works vehicles, plant and materials. When parking bays are suspended signs are erected and illegally parked vehicles can be issued with PCNs or removed. More information can be found at [Suspending a parking bay and dispensations | Brent Council](#)