

POLICY:

1 INTRODUCTION

This policy is primarily concerned with:

- Who can and cannot park in restricted areas and when they may do so, including school visitors and users of services attached to NWDC owned car parks.
- How challenges, representations and dispensations are dealt with including, how the Council will endeavour to treat people fairly, equally and with respect taking full account of their personal circumstances.
- The conduct of the Council's staff and the manner in which it carries out enforcement.
- Service standards that will be adopted by the District Council when carrying out parking enforcement which are in addition to the normal accepted process.

1.1 It is impossible to qualify every case and there will be occasions when the Parking Services Manager or those as delegated by the Parking Services Manager will consider the case on its individual merits and cancel it.

1.2 This Policy will be subject to regular Review by the North Wiltshire District Council Car Parking Working Group and the Wiltshire Parking Board and will reflect current best practice.

Policy Statement of NWDC in regard to permitted free parking within NWDC owned car parks.

Dated:

North Wiltshire District Council is committed to making sure that it provides Equality of Opportunity in how its services are delivered. This commitment has been translated into its Core Values by ensuring that different groups and individual needs are reflected in the delivery of service.

The staff of North Wiltshire District Council will ensure that they will offer all necessary assistance to any person to ensure that they are aware and can avail themselves of all services and rights due to them.

The overall aims of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement within the County of Wiltshire are:

- Maintain and, where possible, improve the flow of traffic thereby making the County a more pleasant and environmentally safe place to live and visit.
- Take into account the needs of local residents, shops and businesses, thereby sustaining the County and District Council's economic growth.
- Actively support the needs of disabled people bearing in mind that, in some cases, they are unable to use public transport and are entirely dependent upon the use of a car. This will ensure that people with disabilities are able to have equal access to all facilities within the districts.
- Actively discourage indiscriminate parking that causes obstruction to other motorists, public transport, pedestrians, cyclists and people with disabilities. This will ensure that the Districts remain accessible to all equally and safely.

The policy shall be regularly reviewed and will take into account:

- a) Existing and predicted levels of demand for parking.
- b) The availability and pricing of both on and off -street parking.
- c) The nature and extent of on-street parking restrictions.
- d) The accuracy and quality of existing signs and plates.
- e) The levels of compliance that NWDC considers to be acceptable and the level of enforcement necessary to achieve them.
- f) The views of the public who shall be actively consulted on all matters relating to the extension of parking restrictions.
- g) The views of the Wiltshire Police.
- h) The provision of suitable parking facilities for disabled people.
- i) The provision of suitable parking facilities for cyclists and motorcyclists.
- j) Consideration of the Council's overall aims with regard to the environment, fear of crime within the County and the sustained economic growth of the County and District Councils.

Specific Policies

Schools

- a) All schools, upon application, may be granted the free use of NWDC owned car parks for parents during the time period 0845-0915 and 1445-1515, Monday to Friday and term times only. At the time of agreement the car park/car parks allowed for use will also be clearly defined. Limits will be used on the number of permits issued based on the capacity of the car park.
- b) If the car park/s requested for use are in an urban area agreement must also be sought from the Town/Parish council and The Chamber of Commerce before a scheme can be agreed. If agreement is not reached the scheme, at the discretion of NWDC, may still be agreed.
- c) Any school that does apply is required to issue permits, keep a log of registrations of vehicles the permits are issued to and collect permits once they are no longer needed. The administrator must also consider the number of spaces available within the car park and the effect on the community of the number of permits being issued. The car parks first and foremost are designed to protect and encourage the economic vitality and viability of the town centres and businesses. The school must also report to parking services, on a term by term basis, the number of permits issued and the registrations of the vehicles issued to.
- d) Any vehicle issued a permit may park during the designated times for the collection or delivery of a child/children to the school only. Any person found to be undertaking any other activity, including shopping and other related activities, will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice. Patrols and checks will be undertaken on a regular basis to ensure compliance. Regular non compliance by parents at a specific school may lead to the suspension or cancellation of the scheme.
- e) All appeals against PCNs must be addressed in the first instance, by the registered keeper of the vehicle, to Parking Services at NWDC and not to the school issuing the permit. Any PCN issued for overstaying the allowed timeframes due to delays caused by the school or other parties will not be cancelled.
- f) Any school applying to be part of the scheme must provide to the Council a copy of its Green Transport Policy. It is a key aim of the introduction of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement to encourage a modal shift towards sustainable transport.
- g) The issue of a permit to any parent with a trip of under 1 mile is strongly discouraged.
- h) The Headmistress/master of the school will be required to confirm in writing the acceptance of these terms and conditions before the scheme may start. This agreement must be renewed on a yearly basis.