

# Walton controlled parking scheme

## Frequently asked questions

July 2009

### **How much does a resident permit cost and how many can I buy?**

The cost of a resident permit will be £35 for one year. However, the County Council is in the process of reviewing the cost of residents' permits throughout Surrey so this figure may vary in future years.

A property can have up to two permits. However, if a property has off street parking for one vehicle, it will only be eligible for one permit. If a property has off street parking for two or more vehicles it will not be eligible for any permits. If you only need to park on street in the evenings outside of the controlled hours, you may decide not to buy a permit.

### **Does a resident permit guarantee me a space outside my property?**

No, the permit does not guarantee you a space outside your property or even in your road. A valid resident permit only allows a vehicle to park for an unlimited time within a marked parking bay in the zone for which the permit has been issued, as long as a space is available.

### **I have my own off road parking. Will I have to buy a permit?**

No, unless you want to park on street within a marked permit parking bay.

### **Will the permit allow me to park on yellow lines?**

No, the permit does not exempt a vehicle from yellow line restrictions during the hours of operation. Any vehicle parked on a yellow line during the operational hours, regardless of whether or not a parking permit is displayed, could be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN).

### **How many visitor permits can I buy and how much are they?**

Up to 30 visitor permits per year can be issued to each residential property within the parking scheme. The permits cost £1.00 each and are valid for one day only.

### **Do I have to be a permit holder to purchase a visitor permit?**

No. Any resident within any of the designated permit parking zones may purchase visitor permits but permits can only be used in the designated zone within which the applicant resides.

### **Who can park where and when?**

The restrictions only apply during the hours shown on the adjacent signs, except for double yellow lines, which are in force at all times.

Permit holders can park for as long as they want in a Permit Holders Only bay. Visitor permit holders can also use these bays with a valid permit.

Limited waiting bays allow other drivers to park for the limited time period shown on the adjacent signs, for example for up to one hour. Permit Holders can also use these bays but their permit does not exempt them from the limited time period.

Shared use bays combine a Permit Holders bay with a Limited Waiting bay. Other drivers may park for the limited waiting period shown on the adjacent signs. The limited time period in shared use bays does not apply to Permit Holders.

### **Can anybody park in my road?**

Any vehicle displaying a valid permit for your zone may park for an unlimited period in a Permit Holders Only bay. Other vehicles may park for up to the maximum waiting time displayed on the adjacent signs in bays where shared parking is proposed.

### **Will on-street parking controls reduce the amount of parking spaces available?**

Overall, there will be an increase in spaces for residents and their visitors. The need to ensure that traffic can still pass along a road safely means that it is necessary to provide yellow lines within the scheme at locations where parking would inhibit the free-flow of traffic, for example, at junctions. Parking bays are provided in order to maximise the space that's left and because these spaces are now managed, long-term parking by commuters is removed and turnover of spaces by short term parking is increased having an overall effect of increasing spaces for residents and their visitors as stated.

### **The parking bays appear to cross my driveway**

The bays will be marked continuously wherever practicable and delineation markings or 'H' bars will be laid in front of all formal dropped crossing points within each marked bay at no expense to residents. This will allow residents to park in front of their own access, provided that the vehicle in question displays a valid permit during the operational hours. The proposed manner of marking bays will also maximise the number of spaces available to residents.

### **Why is limited waiting allowed in some resident parking bays?**

Resident parking bays close to local shops and amenities can include a limited waiting period for non-permit holders so that the vitality of the businesses can be maintained. Effective enforcement will mean that turnover of spaces within these parking bays is kept high so that the effect on resident permit holders is minimised.

**Do disabled badge holders need to apply for resident permits?**

No, provided the vehicle displays a valid Blue Disabled Badge whilst parked in a permit parking bay.

**Where can businesses and workers park?**

Permits can be issued to individual business premises within the Walton scheme on an ad-hoc basis to assist with the operation of the business. These permits are not issued to employees. Employees and other workers will need to make alternative parking arrangements as they will not be able to park all day on restricted roads within the scheme.

**Can car park charges be reduced to encourage workers to use them?**

Surrey County Council, Elmbridge Borough Council and the operators of the Heart Shopping Centre car park are currently discussing how to make use of off street parking in Walton town centre, to better meet workers' longer term parking needs.

**Will parking be regulated on Private Roads?**

Although residents of private roads within the consultation area have been involved, the County Council has no plans to introduce waiting restrictions on these roads.

**Will I have road markings and signs in my road?**

Yes, on all adopted roads, for the waiting restrictions approved for your road. All waiting restrictions are the subject of a Traffic Regulation Order and must be marked and signed in accordance with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 for them to be enforceable. There will be a minimum of double yellow lines at junctions.

**Can other roads be included in the Scheme?**

Some roads have not been included as the on-street assessment suggested that there was no immediate need to regulate parking. Proposals for the Walton scheme are based on the responses received from the informal consultation carried out in 2007, together with an on-street assessment between December 2008 and February 2009.

Permit parking is not proposed in some roads as consultation responses indicated that a majority of residents were not in favour. However, if residents tell us that they now want their road to be included, this can be considered at this stage of the consultation process.

**What happens now?**

Responses received will be looked at and consideration given by the Council to requests for changes, before the formal advertisement of the Traffic Regulation Order.

Another leaflet will be delivered to all premises within the consultation boundary, prior to the scheme being finalised. This will update everyone, especially about any decisions made by the Council resulting in changes.

The required Traffic Regulation Order will be formally advertised in the Surrey Herald within two weeks of that final leaflet. Any person wishing to object to the implementation of the scheme may then do so within 21 days of the date of publication by writing to '*J Isaac, Head of Surrey Highways, Surrey County Council, Room 308A, County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2DY*' stating their reason/s for doing so.

New waiting restrictions are reviewed soon after they are implemented, normally after six months, which allows us to measure the success of the restrictions and iron out any problems.