

Proposed Permit Parking Area (PPA) - Zone Z - Riverside Road Area.

Frequently Asked Questions

Consultation

1. Why is this consultation taking place?

The council has received correspondence from residents within the area, expressing their difficulties with being able to find kerb side space for parking near their properties. Through undertaking this consultation we are engaging with all residents in the area to understand the desire of residents to pursue any further parking controls in the area.

2. Why is the consultation a paper exercise?

To ensure all residents can respond equally, the council carries out the consultation as a paper based exercise. The return post is FREEPOST so no stamp is required. Questionnaires can be scanned in and emailed to oxheyparking@watford.gov.uk but all details as per the questionnaire must be entered.

3. What will happen to the results of this consultation?

All results will be reported to your local Ward Councillors and Portfolio Holder and a decision made on whether or not to proceed with the proposals to a further statutory consultation stage. Once the consultation exercise has been completed and a decision made, we will write again to residents to inform them of the outcome. The decision report and results (on a per street basis) will be published on the Council website.

Permit Parking Area Zone Z – Riverside Road Area

4. Why is this a distinct Zone to the rest of Oxhey

There are differing zones in Oxhey based on differing requirements and resident needs. This area is distinct and 'self-enclosed' lending itself to be its own unique zone

5. Why are the hours of operation set in the consultation?

The hours of operation proposed (Monday-Saturday 1pm-3pm) have been chosen to mitigate local parking concerns and help secure parking for local residents. Offering options of different time periods leads to a split vote and a consensus is unlikely to be reached by the majority of residents in relation to a single time period. By offering one option, the Council can see whether the majority of residents support a scheme or not.

6. How does the Permit Parking Area work?

The Permit Parking Area (PPA) will have signed entry points at the entry points and repeater signs within the Zone. There will be no dedicated marked bays, as the entry signs indicate 'parking past this point'. All vehicles parked within the PPA during the operational times will need to display a permit.

7. Can individual roads opt out of being in the zone if there is no resident support?

The integrity of the scheme relies on this being an area wide scheme, therefore even if the majority of a residents in one road, are against the proposal, the scheme may still proceed based on the support of the wider area. The exclusion of individual roads will lead to an 'island effect' and this road is likely to see an increase in displaced parking and future issues with parking demand.

The only exception to this exclusion is Blackwell Drive & The Coppice, as Blackwell Drive is on the edge of the Zone, this can be separated, as a delineation line can be drawn at the Riverside Road/Blackwell Drive junction.

Permit Parking Areas

8. A PPA is being introduced in my area, what does it mean?

In a PPA all streets are subject to parking controls and vehicles may park only when displaying a valid permit for that PPA during the operational hours. The operational times of the PPA are indicated on entry signs as you enter the area/zone with residents and their visitors being given priority throughout the hours of operation. A PPA generally allows for more parking capacity as bays are not formally marked and residents are able to park across their dropped kerbs (vehicle crossovers) during the operational hours, provided that any cars parked across dropped kerbs have valid resident or visitor permits during the operational hours.

9. Who can apply for a Resident's Permit, how many can I have and how much do they cost?

Resident's Permits are issued to residents whose vehicle is registered at an address within the proposed area. **The limit is two permits per household (maximum of one permit per person)** and the vehicle must not exceed 5.25m in length (up to a standard, Ford, Transit) and 2.3m in height. The Cost of resident parking permits in February 2022 are as follows:

- First permit - £25
- Second permit - £55
- Motorcycle permits - £25
- Blue Badge Drivers or parents/ guardians of blue badge holders 18 years old and under - free

Permits are valid for a 12-month period.

10. What will happen to residents who own more than two cars?

For Permit Areas to have a positive effect we can't offer more than two permits to each household – due to the availability of on-street parking areas. Therefore households with three vehicles or more will have to make alternative arrangements for their additional vehicles during the operational times of the permit area.

11. How does the council control the number of permits? If every house asks for two, but the council knows there are only limited spaces, will the council cap the number sold?

The Council will not cap the number of permits, the current policy of two permits per household was adopted following a review of on street parking spaces in Watford when the council first introduced Controlled Parking Zones.

The Council excludes new developments from permit eligibility to help maintain the level of demand for on-street parking spaces from existing residents.

12. How and where do I obtain my Resident's Permit?

Resident permits are digital. You apply online and there's no need to put a paper voucher in your car. You can purchase a Resident's Permit online by clicking on the resident parking permit tab on the website. Applicants must live in the area of the zone and must provide proof of residence and of vehicle ownership. You'll need to upload some documents to prove your address and vehicle details. Further information on this process is available on www.watford.gov.uk.

13. What provision will be made for visitors wanting to park within the controlled hours?

You'll need to get a visitor parking voucher for a guest to park. The account holder can easily purchase a visitor parking voucher for guests online or via the Ringo app or by calling the dedicated voucher telephone number, once a Visitor Permit Account has been opened. Only residents within the Permit Parking Zone may purchase visitor vouchers. We don't issue the paper visitor vouchers. There is an option to add additional users onto the account so more than one member of the household can book vouchers. In addition to this once the account is set up you also have the option to book vouchers by telephone if you do not have access to a PC, Tablet or App. Further information on this process is available on www.watford.gov.uk/parking or by telephone to the Parking Services Team on 01923 278890.

Within the proposed Zone Z (Riverside Road Area), visitor allocation is capped at 120 hours per annum. The cost of visitor vouchers in February 2022 is 11p per hour.

14. I am a blue badge holder (disabled badge holder) can I apply for a resident permit?

If you are a resident within the zone and a driver you can apply for a resident permit. If you supply confirmation that you hold a valid blue badge (disabled badge), along with proof of residency and vehicle ownership, the permit will be issued free of charge. During the operational times of the zone the permit must be valid.

15. Are there any other permits I can or have to apply for?

You can also apply for the following:

- **Special resident permit** - If you live in a parking permit area and you rely on a relative or friend that lives outside of the zone, to provide essential care, you can apply for a special resident permit for their use. The permit will be registered to the family member or carer's vehicle.
- **Doctor and health parking permit** – You can apply for a Doctor / Health Visitor permit if you are a medical or care organisation and your staff make essential domiciliary visits to residents that live in the parking permit area.
- **Suspensions and dispensations** - If you need a vehicle to park near your property (like for building works and deliveries) you can apply for a parking dispensation for a fee.

16. How much is a dispensation for a tradesperson or someone working on my property?

The cost of these permits is £10 per day. Trades people and people working on your property will have to apply for a dispensation permit if they need to park during the operational hours of the parking permit area.

17. How would a business qualify for a business permit?

The business will need to be at an address that is included within the zone and provide documentation to confirm that the business pays business rates along with documents to confirm that the vehicles are registered to the business.

The business must have no off-street parking facilities/parking space within their business premises.

If businesses meet the criteria they can apply for one business permit per business to use on two operational vehicles. This is only applicable to operational vehicles, not vehicles which allow employees to commute to work.

18. What happens next?

Once the informal consultation deadline has closed the results and comments will be collated and analysed by council officers and local councillors prior to a summary and results letter that will be sent to residents. The results will determine what the next steps, if any, there will be.

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