

# Residents' Parking Zones

Quick-guide



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Residents' Parking Zones (RPZ), also known as controlled parking zones, reserve on-street parking in residential areas primarily for residents only through payment of an annual fee.

## What are Residents' Parking Zones?

Residents' Parking Zones can be implemented by local authorities to control all parking on all public roads within a defined zone. Parking is limited between certain times to households within the zone. Short stay pay and display can also be used to meet the needs of local businesses.

## How do they work?

Residents within an RPZ, who need a public parking space close to where they live, can opt to pay an annual fee to the local authority for permission to park within the zone.

People without a permit are not allowed to park in the zone and can be subject to a fine if they do.

Residents can also apply for permits for visitors to use these spaces.

In addition, residents who are elderly or infirm and requiring regular visits from medical/support professionals or relatives may apply for a free permit.

A number of RPZs, introduced at the request of the local community, currently operate successfully in Cambridge.

Under present policy, an RPZ is only introduced with sufficient support from the local community led by the local councillor/s. This policy is under review.





### What are the benefits?

The main benefit of an RPZ is to ring-fence limited parking opportunities for nearby residents, to ensure they can find somewhere to park close to where they live if they do not have off-street parking.

It has the effect of preventing motorists who do not live in the area from parking there, including commuters.

In terms of the City Deal package to reduce congestion, it is felt greater use of RPZ in Cambridge could help encourage alternatives to car use for commuting, shopping and other trips and help prevent the displacement of vehicles as a result of a Workplace Parking Levy on commuter parking spaces to nearby streets.

### How much does it cost?

The current annual fee for a Residents' Parking Permit is £60 per year and £30 per year for motorbikes, with a one-off application cost of £52.

Visitors permits cost £8 per permit and are valid for up to five full days.

A refund policy on unused permits exists.

### Where does the money go?

By law, councils cannot charge more for resident's parking permits than it costs to administer and enforce in the zones. If a surplus is made from pay and display parking it can only be spent on local transport.

### Will I have to pay if I live in a zone?

Paying for a residents parking permit is entirely voluntary.

### How quickly will it be introduced?

The Greater Cambridge City Deal is not the lead authority for RPZ – this rests with Cambridgeshire County Council.

The Cambridge Joint Area Committee, a committee of local councillors that advise on local transport issues, is currently undertaking a review of residents' parking in the city and this will inform how and when RPZ can be introduced.

### Where can I find more information?

Information on how RPZ may be used as part of a package to address congestion in Cambridge can be found at [www.gccitydeal.co.uk](http://www.gccitydeal.co.uk)

For more information on Residents Parking Permits in Cambridge visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

