



Residents' parking survey results

Last year we carried out a consultation on residents' parking. Here is a summary of the responses, followed by the results in more detail.

Number of responses received: 1,194
Answering as a resident: 1,164
Answering as a business: 23
Other: 8

Would you support a parking scheme to cover the whole city? Yes: 550 No: 603

Do you have off-street parking available? Yes: 349 No: 846

What do you think of the current residential parking situation in your local area?

Top responses, ranked by the number of responses. The number in brackets indicates how many of the responses were from people in a parking scheme.

Parking availability is very poor; there are not enough spaces, congested	194 (6)
Parking is not a problem in my area; scheme would be a waste of time	164 (2)
The parking scheme we have works very well	134 (134)
Many commercial vehicles and vans park at night and over the weekend	120 (2)
Overflow vehicles from adjoining scheme makes parking difficult / impossible	114 (6)
Parking problem is due to multi occupancy houses and student accommodation	70 (3)
Parking is particularly an issue in the evenings and at weekends	52 (1)
The scheme is not well enforced, particularly in the evenings and during events	38 (32)
The scheme makes it difficult to have visitors / unfair to pay if no car	37 (28)
A parking scheme would be very welcome	32 (0)
The scheme is ineffective / recently introduced and unnecessary	29 (23)
Parking is only a problem on football match days / events days	18 (2)
Vehicles park inconsiderately	16 (3)
I am always able to find a space, but not necessarily outside my house	14 (1)

Responses made by 1-10 people:

Parking schemes do not guarantee a space	7
Three hours' free parking is too long – should be reduced to an hour	6
NHS staff use the road as a car park	4
A scheme would help overnight – no problem during the day	4
People parking outside schools causes problems and congestion	4
Station commuters take up a lot of spaces	3
Parking gets busy with the tourists	3
The scheme should be increased to 24 hours a day	3
Parking scheme is just to make money	3
Overflow parking from Highbury College causes problems	2
The streets are too narrow for the amount of cars trying to park	2
Areas should be constantly re-assessed	2
Not happy paying for a second vehicle	2
The scheme should cover the whole area	2
Parking is ok, sometimes have to drive round to find a space	1
Cars sold illegally in the street	1
Policemen from the station park without consideration	1

Scheme should operate Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm	1
Improvements are needed to the roads as well as to parking	1
The permit itself should be bigger	1
I have a motorbike, as it is easy to park	1
I don't have a car	1
Residents with garages should be made to use them	1
Parking should be restricted to one side of the road only	1
Parking scheme has a negative impact on local businesses	1
The scheme should not include any commercial vehicles	1

How do you feel about residents' parking across the city?

Top responses (number in brackets indicates those within a parking scheme):

Do not agree with it, waste of money, doesn't guarantee a space	178 (29)
The scheme is a great idea	168 (35)
It moves the problem on, instead of dealing with it (displacement parking)	86 (13)
The scheme I live within works well	80 (25)
The scheme should cover the whole of the city or none at all	60 (10)
Expensive for visitors, restricted on length of stay, unfair on residents with no car	59 (12)
It seems to be a fair policy	58 (8)
The parking situation in the city is very poor	58 (5)
It should be in some key areas, but not all	49 (8)
Can't comment / don't know	44 (16)
It needs to be strictly enforced, day and night	38 (17)
Company vans should not be given permits	37 (4)
Good idea in roads close to town and shops, but not on the edge of the City	32 (6)
Affordable car parks would free up residents' roads from tourists and shoppers	19 (5)
We already pay council tax/road tax and should not have to pay more fees	15 (2)
The city has too many vehicles and not enough parking spaces	15 (3)
Hard to implement a scheme where households have 3-4 cars	12 (1)
The scheme is too restrictive	11 (2)
New housing developments and flats are built, with no parking space for them	19 (1)

Responses made by 1-10 people:

Schemes should only be introduced if 75% of the residents agree to it	10
The scheme will drive away tourism	10
Too restrictive for local businesses, landlords and tradesmen	10
More should be done to encourage people not to bring / use cars into the city	9
I have mixed feelings about parking schemes	8
Students should have one car per household policy	7
Schemes just make money for the council	6
Not enough thought given to residents' needs	4
All zones should have the same free parking time	4
A resident permit should cover you for the whole city	3
Lower parking charges to spread parking across the city, not just in free roads	3
The current scheme does not work	3
Scheme is unfair on people who have to park work vans at home	2
Free parking period should be reduced to 1 hour	2
In a citywide scheme, the signage would have to be clear to separate areas	2

There should be three hours of free parking	1
If the whole city has residents' parking, where will non-residents park?	1
Scheme makes it impossible for people to move freely around the city	1
Everyone should be able to park their car outside their house	1
The scheme is not fair on students	1
I don't think the schemes will last	1
Permits should cover the whole city, free for disabled people	1
Paint individual parking bays	1
Scheme is a good idea for weekdays	1
Those paying council tax for garages would be penalised by a scheme	1
I do not agree to having to pay to change/amend a permit	1
The zones are too small	1
Residents should be made to use their garages	1
There should be no charge for a second vehicle	1
Parking is not too bad	1
Tax payers should get free parking on the seafront	1
Two hours' free parking doesn't help with football traffic on match days	1

How do you think residents' parking schemes can be improved?

Top responses (number in brackets indicates those within a parking scheme):

Commercial vehicles should not be allowed to park on residential streets	154 (20)
Residents' Parking should be citywide or scrapped altogether	141 (23)
Cancel the residents' parking scheme	131 (25)
Stronger enforcement of the parking schemes day and night	87 (55)
Each household should have one free permit for visitors to use	84 (32)
Unable to comment / Don't know	50 (5)
No improvements needed	49 (24)
Residents should be able to park in any zone in the city, not just their own	32 (11)
Bays should be marked per house to prevent bad parking	30 (9)
Parking restrictions should only be in place evenings and weekends	24 (3)
Make it easier and cheaper to buy visitor permits; online would work well	21 (9)
Only put in residents' parking where necessary and residents agree	18 (3)
Maximum of two permits per household	17 (4)
Inexpensive council-run car parks across the city	16 (4)
Park and Ride / Secure parking for commercial vehicles	15 (3)
Parking should be increased to 3-4 hours; two not enough	15 (6)
One free permit per household, then a lot more for additional permits	14 (3)
Reduce the free parking for non-residents to one hour	13 (11)
Flats should not be allowed to be built without relevant parking	12 (0)
Schemes are only needed in shopping and tourist areas, and Seafront	11 (3)

Responses made by 1-10 people:

We want residents' parking in our road	10
More focus on transport improvements and cycling options	9
The university should provide parking or Park & Ride for students	9
Encourage people to use their off-road parking	8
Do not issue permits to students	8
There should be no limit on permits allowed	7
Tradesmen should have permits so they don't pass on the cost to clients	6
Implement more one-way systems	5
One permit per household	5
There should be one parking bay allocated to each house	4
The amount of permits per household should be capped	4
All zones across the city should have the same restrictions	4

No parking 9am-11am and 4pm - 6pm to prevent all day parking but still allow for visitors	4	
Tax rebate or similar for not owning a car in the city	3	
Reduce permit fees	3	
Make QA car park cheaper so visitors do not use residents' roads	3	
Increase visitor time around Fratton Park to three hours	2	
Listen to residents' views before implementing a scheme	2	
Leave sections of the street as free parking	2	
Remove residents' parking from business areas	2	
Students should be able to obtain permits more easily	2	
Residents permits should be per road, not per zone	2	
Do not charge for permits	2	
Exclude public holidays from the scheme	2	
Issue six-hour visitor parking permits	2	
Introduce a tax based on the length of vehicles	1	
Use school playgrounds for parking, evenings and weekends	1	
Effective policing during school times	1	
Residents just outside zones should be allowed to apply for permits	1	
Make it easier for people who have to bring home a work van	1	
Implement schemes that operate at certain times. 24/7 not needed	1	
Limit the amount of vehicles per household	1	
Base decisions on other large cities and their solutions	1	
Have a residents' complaint line	1	
Hold a public community meeting instead of letters through post	1	
Free parking at the seafront	1	
Increase the cost for a third permit	1	
Reduce the cost for the second permit		1
After 6pm and on weekends should be unrestricted	1	
Seasonal restrictions (Sept – May) when parking is a problem	1	
Planning permission for anyone who wants to convert their frontage	1	
Charge businesses and residents the same for permits	1	
Parking for the King's Theatre needs to be addressed	1	
Painted parking bays are unnecessary	1	
Ensure vehicles have valid tax/insurance before issuing permits	1	
Different coloured permits for different zones	1	
Ensure motorcycles are parked off-road	1	
Taxis should not be allowed residents' permits	1	
Regular consultation with residents	1	
Find out many vehicles per house from DVLA and issue that many permits	1	
Ensure that trailers do not park on the street	1	
Tighter restrictions around train stations	1	
Underground car park at Southsea Common	1	
Fewer double yellow lines	1	
Fenced car park for residents that only residents have a key for	1	
Widen the roads to accommodate more parking	1	
No "free" parking anywhere. No permit = no parking	1	
Residents living in their property more than one year should have more say		1

Further comments

Top responses (number in brackets indicates those within a parking scheme):

Employees should not bring home commercial/work vans/lorries, they should be left at a work depot - or have a park and ride scheme for commercial vans	108 (4)
The scheme should be citywide or scrapped	41 (3)

I vote against the residents parking schemes: they do not work	37 (0)
Free visitor permit per house, paying unfair / senior citizens can't afford for people to visit	34 (17)
The university needs to provide student parking or the students should not be allowed to bring their cars into the city	23 (8)
The scheme needs to be 'policed' better and more often, people park for days without getting a ticket, especially in the evenings when problems occur	32 (11)
Cheaper, more effective public transport would stop people using cars/reduce no. of cars	19 (2)
Flats should not be built/Houses converted into flats if they can't provide adequate parking for their residents	16 (2)
I am very happy with the residents parking scheme in my road	15 (15)
We should have a permanent park and ride, just outside the city	15 (3)
Bays should be marked out for each individual house, to stop people parking badly	15 (2)
Scratch cards should be easily available and for shorter periods, e.g. three or four hours, 25p each and you can buy them in packs of 10 (sell online?)	12 (9)
We need affordable car parks, £2 for the whole day	12 (1)
It is a money making scheme	12 (1)
I have to park far away, which means lots of walking late at night, which is dangerous	12 (1)
I would like the residents parking in my road	11 (0)

Responses made by 1-10 people:

Scheme has been introduced recently and did not improve the parking situation	9 (8)
Detrimental effect on small local businesses, especially Kings Theatre and Albert Road shops/pubs/restaurants	7 (3)
Staff at the hospital should have free/cheap parking, so that they do not park in residential streets	7 (3)
People should be encouraged/forced to use their off road parking, to free up road parking space	6 (0)
Portsmouth is not big enough to accommodate everyone owning a car or two!	6 (3)
The parking situation in Southsea is so bad we are considering moving	6 (2)
Residents parking scheme should be throughout Portsmouth and residents are allowed to park anywhere within Portsmouth, no restrictions	6 (0)
I do not know enough about the schemes to be able to comment	4 (2)
Must ensure that disabled bays are still necessary for their owners	4 (0)
People need to work to make ends meet, some have to bring home work vans: that's life	3 (0)
I live opposite a school, would teachers get a permit for our road?	3 (0)
The residents parking scheme seems like a good idea	3 (0)
People with off road parking won't vote for the scheme: unfair on those who have none	3 (0)
If you change your car you shouldn't have to pay for a new permit	2 (2)
Maximum two permits should be issued per household, or they should incur a large fee	2 (0)
More cycle lanes, to encourage people to cycle and feel safe when they do so	2 (0)
Roads with permits are now empty, cars overflow into streets without permit parking	2 (0)
Diagonal parking on side of the street and normal parking on the other improves parking	2 (0)

The comments below were each made by one respondent:

The survey will make it possible to make an informed decision as to whether local problems can be solved by residents' parking schemes

A car was left outside my address unattended for three months

I think the survey is biased and unfair, the majority of people do not want the scheme

Tradesman should have a permit that allows them to work during the day

Have a clear strategy that ties in with the city's regeneration, tourism, planning, environmental strategies and plans

Put the council tax towards centres for young mums and the elderly

There should be a cap on the amount of permits allowed per property

The vote should be based on the percentage of votes returned, not the amount of forms sent out

It is important that all junctions and roads are maintained for emergency and delivery vehicles

Can you please make East of Broad Street residential

There should only be one car registered for a disabled space, not all the cars from that household

People park in front of my dropped curb, which causes problems

I am very happy with the service the council provides

The current system does not allow for car sharing