



Southampton City Council
Annual Parking Report 2022/23

Foreword

Southampton City Council's aim is to operate a parking environment that is fair and consistent. The parking charges in the City Centre and around the Hospital aim to create a turnover of parking for the benefit of all users and to boost the local economy.

We have maintained our commitment to keeping daytime parking charges at a reasonable level in comparison to similar authorities with no increases in our day tariff rates implemented during the 2022/23 financial year. The Council did reinstate evening charges during this period which applied 6pm to 8pm On Street and 6pm to Midnight Off Street for the purposes of maintaining turnover within the evening period and encouraging alternative means of travel.

The Civil Enforcement Team have continued to make effective use of the Camera Enforcement Car making regular frequent visits to school sites around the city to deter vehicles from being left on parking restrictions put in place for the safety of school children. The Penalty Charge Notices being issued has increased with officers paying particular attention to contraventions of double yellow lines and disabled parking bays.

The parking team continue to assist in managing Bus lane enforcement to increase the reliability of buses through the Shirley, along the Eastern approach (New Road and Northam Road) and at Vincent's Walk. Contraventions of bus lanes / bus gates have dropped significantly since this was introduced, meeting our objective of ensuring they are kept clear.

We have listened to feedback regarding the cleanliness of the car parks and continue to carry out regular cleaning during the day. Overnight closures are now in place for all five of the multi-storey facilities to ensure they are not used for rough sleeping to the detriment of the parking environment.

The Council has continued to carry out consultations on new permit parking schemes across the City, although no new permit schemes were introduced in this financial year.

Public Parking

The City Centre

Southampton City Council maintains 5 multi-storey car parks and 29 surface parks within the City Centre, which accommodate 4719 parking spaces. This constitutes approximately one third of the off-street parking capacity available to the public within the City Centre. All other off-street City Centre parking provision is managed by private operators.

The number of spaces for each City Council maintained car park are shown in the table below.

Multi-Storey Car Parks	Spaces
Bedford Place	289
Eastgate Street	709
Grosvenor Square	532
Marlands	810
West Park Road	506
Surface Car Parks	Spaces
Albion Place	52
Amoy Street	54
Ascupart Street	32
Bond Street	70
Castle Way	76
Civic Centre Forecourt	72
College Street	168
Commercial Road	19
Compton Walk	35
Crosshouse Hard	66
Gloucester Square	90
Grosvenor Square (North)	88
Handford Place	10
Harbour Parade	64
James Street	16
Kings Park Road	76
Mayflower Park	229
Northam Road	24
Ordnance Road	40
Bargate Street (Shop Mobility)	17
Six Dials	72
Southampton Street	11
Southbrook Road North	27
Southbrook Road South	113
The Quays North	135
The Quays South	92
Trinity Road	23
Wilton Avenue	78
Wyndham Place	24

The City Council also manages all on-street parking within the City Centre. This by definition is any parking bay located on the public highway. There are approximately 1571 on-street parking bays currently located in the City Centre.

Parking Charges

As with most other urban Local Authorities, all Council owned parking within the City Centre is managed using parking charges to ensure turnover of vehicles within the parking bays.

The parking charges will vary depending on location, but the Council aims to maintain a variety of tariffs to suit different needs.

Parking charges for each car park and on-street parking location can be viewed via the link below;

<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/roads-parking/parking/default.aspx>

Season Tickets

The Council also offers a variety of City Centre season tickets to reduce the cost of parking for frequent users. Some season tickets were developed specifically for residents who live within the pay and display zone, enabling them to resolve their parking needs without impacting on the underlying principle of maintaining vehicle turnover.

The City Centre Season Tickets that are currently available to the public can be viewed via the link below;

<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/roads-parking/parking/season-tickets/>

The number of individual Season Tickets sold in 2022/23 is shown in the table below.

Season Ticket Type	Cost	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Off Street Any Time Season Ticket	£1100 p/a	435	415	165
Off Street Overnight Season Ticket	£150 p/a	9	3	2
Off Street Any Time Season Ticket*	£675 p/a	181	189	167
On Street Season Ticket Evenings*	£100 p/a	0	1	1
On Street Season Ticket Eve & Weekends*	£400 p/a	4	7	14
On Street Any Time Season Ticket*	£950 p/a	63	62	48
	Totals	692	677	397

*City Centre Residents living within the Pay & Display Zone

Electric Vehicle Discount

The Council is currently offering a 90% discount on all Season Tickets for Electric Vehicle users. This is to encourage drivers to adopt this emerging technology for the benefit of air quality within the City Centre. The level of discount will be reviewed on an annual basis.

District Centres

The City Council also operates a limited number of car parks and on-street pay & display / limited waiting car parks in the District Centres.

These vary from 2 hour limited waiting facilities to 5 hours limited waiting with a charge for a longer stay. This is to attract shoppers to the District Centres while maintaining some turnover the course of the day.

Bitterne Car Parks	Spaces
Angel Crescent	119
Commercial Street	55
Lances Hill	74
West End Road	25
Whites Road	26
Portswood Car Parks	Spaces
Rayners Gardens	14
Westridge Road	83
Shirley Car Parks	Spaces
Cannon Street	42
Howard's Grove	47
Marlborough Road North	62
Marlborough Road South	91
Woolston Car Parks	Spaces
The Colonade	29
Oakbank Road	85
Woodley Road	45

Parking Income and Surplus

While the primary reason for implementing parking charges is to manage demand at various locations, this does result in revenue being generated for the Council. Pay & Display revenue is divided into On-Street and Off Street, with On Street Revenue hypothecated for transport and highway expenditure after costs are deducted. Off Street revenue is directed to the Council's general fund after costs are deducted.

Parking revenue, overall income and the surplus is shown in the table below.

	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
On Street Revenue	£2.24M	£1.94M	£1.12M
Off Street Revenue	£4.63M	£3.43M	£1.58M
Total On Street Income (including revenue)	£4.79M	£4.34M	£2.96M
Total Off Street Income (including revenue)	£6.28M	£5.73M	£2.91M
On Street Surplus (after deduction of costs)	£1.48M	£1.58M	£0.33M
Off Street Surplus (after deduction of costs)	£2.91M	£2.33M	-£0.22M

Resident Parking Zones

Permit Parking Schemes

While public highway is not designated for any one user, it is recognised that it can be frustrating for residents who do not have access to off road parking if the road space in the vicinity of their properties is frequently taken up by drivers who do not live in the area.

This usually occurs close to areas of high employment (e.g. the City Centre) and/or places that attract a significant number of visitors (e.g. the General Hospital and the University). In these circumstances, legislation granted under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, allow Local Authorities to introduce Permit Parking Restrictions.

Southampton currently has 21 Permit Parking Zones introduced for the benefit of residents. In all cases, the zones were introduced because residents had requested them and it is currently Council policy that permit parking restrictions will only be introduced where a significant majority of respondents to a consultation are in favour of the proposal.

Southampton's Permit Parking Zones, the year in which they were first introduced and the broad reasons why they were introduced, are outlined below;

Zone	Location	Year	Reason
1	The Polygon	1972	Manage City Centre commuter parking
2	Woolston	1975	Manage parking by workers at Vosper Thorneycroft
3	Woolston		
4	Newtown/Nicholstown	1977	Manage City Centre commuter parking
5	Bevois Town	1978	Manage City Centre commuter parking
6	Highfield	1993	Manage University parking
7	Coxford	1996	Manage Hospital parking
8	Freemantle	2000	Manage City Centre commuter parking
9	Glen Eyre	2000	Manage University parking
10	Flowers Estate	2000	
11	Hampton Park	2000	
12	Highfield	2000	
13	Bitterne Manor	2001	Manage Stadium Event parking (only in operation on Stadium Event Days)
14	Itchen	2001	
15	Northam	2001	
16	Shirley	2003	Manage District Centre parking
17	Golden Grove		Manage estate parking
18	Rockstone Place		Manage City Centre parking
19	Cemetery Road*		Cemetery workers permit scheme
20	Kingsland Estate	2010	Manage estate parking
21	Guildhall Square*		Guild Hall events permit scheme
22	Holyrood Estate	2010	Manage estate parking
23	Alexandra Quay	2015	Manage commuter parking
24	Hollybrook Cemetery*	2016	Cemetery workers permit scheme
25	East Park Depot*	2019	Open Spaces workers permit scheme
26	Hollybrook	2021	Manage Hospital parking
27	Aldermoor	2021	Manage Hospital parking

*Non-resident permit parking schemes

Resident Parking Permits

There is a cost to implementing, maintaining, administering and enforcing permit parking schemes. The Council currently covers this cost by charging a nominal amount of £30 per permit. Some Zones are charged more where a) parking is limited and there is a greater need to manage the number of vehicles or b) where the permit scheme has a small number of properties and there is an increased need to cover the set up and enforcement costs. Permits in Zones 13-14 are issued free of charge as the costs of the schemes are covered by the Stadium.

It should be noted that some other Authorities charge significantly more for parking permits as they place a greater emphasis on managing the number of vehicles on the highway. Furthermore, some Authorities have imposed permit parking schemes on residents, whereas in Southampton, schemes are currently only implemented if residents have requested them and a significant majority are in favour of the proposals.

The number of resident permits (including temporary permits & visitor permits) issued is shown in the table below.

Zone	Location	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
1	The Polygon	644	617	623
2	Woolston	48	49	53
3	Woolston	181	178	170
4	Newtown/Nicholstown	1322	1275	1245
5	Bevois Town	837	823	815
6	Highfield	654	656	485
7	Coxford	1096	1108	998
8	Freemantle	349	354	338
9	Glen Eyre	355	338	335
10	Flowers Estate	572	560	553
11	Hampton Park	365	360	359
12	Highfield	323	318	315
13	Bitterne Manor	346	315	243
14	Itchen	161	183	146
15	Northam	282	283	295
16	Shirley	347	350	348
17	Golden Grove	389	360	289
18	Rockstone Place	19	15	15
20	Kingsland Estate	77	61	78
22	Holyrood Estate	261	209	259
23	Alexandra Quay	52	52	48
26	Hollybrook	497	519	-
27	Alder Moor	317	351	-
All	Annual Visitor Permits	1849	1855	1401
	Totals	11343	11189	9411

Parking Enforcement

Our team of Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) monitor compliance of a range of parking controls. Where a contravention appears to have occurred they will seek compliance through education with motorists to the parking regulations and restrictions. This may include the serving of a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN).

In addition to issuing Penalty Charge Notices, Civil Enforcement Officers also report any defective signs to be repaired or replaced and lines to be refreshed or re-lined as well as fulfilling an ambassadorial role for the council. Since October 2013, CEOs have had the power to inspect blue badges (disabled badges) and seize them in specific circumstances.

To ensure we enforce fairly, efficiently and effectively, the City is divided into flexible 'beats'. Visit requirements are determined by the levels of compliance and the restrictions in place, in support of the aims of the council towards wellbeing and safety of road users and to meet the expectations of residents, business and visitors to the city. We also endeavour to respond to notifications from the public where parking restrictions are not being observed. These are supplemented by special enforcement requests during events such as the annual Southampton Boat show, football matches and other major events in the city.

Depending on the severity of the contravention, a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) may be issued at the higher rate of £70 or the lower rate of £50. If the PCN is paid within 14 days the charge will be reduced by 50%, resulting in a higher rate of £35 and a lower rate of £25. If a PCN remains unpaid after the reduced fee period the increased charge may apply.

A summary of PCNs issued is shown below;

PCN Summary	2022/23	2020/21	2019/20
Number of higher level PCNs issued	35,897	35,101	22,427
Number of lower level PCNs issued	41,739	32,841	23,391
Total number of PCNs issued	77,636	67,942	45,743

The number of PCNs issued against each contravention is shown in the tables below;

Contraventions at the lower rate of £50

Code	Contravention Description	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
5	Parked after the expiry of paid for time	3,215	2,268	1,509
6	Parked without clearly displaying a valid pay & display ticket	10,985	7,774	5,694
7	Parked with payment made to extend the stay beyond the initial time ('meter feeding')	11	8	1
19	Parked in a residents or shared use parking place or zone displaying an invalid permit, voucher or pay & display ticket	1,131	1,535	1,094
22	Re- parked in the same parking place within one hour of leaving	463	436	272

24	Not parked correctly within the markings of the bay or space	1,068	949	585
30	Parked for longer than permitted	11,612	10,056	7,789
80	Parked for longer than the maximum period	512	392	314
82	Parked after the expiry of time paid for in a pay & display car park	2,693	1,771	961
83	Parked in a pay & display car park without clearly displaying a valid pay and display ticket	9,206	6,569	3,780
84	Parked with additional payment made to extend the stay beyond time first purchased	40	18	15
86	Parked beyond the bay markings	788	596	331
90	Re-parked within one hour of leaving a bay space in a car park	11	10	7

Contraventions at the higher rate of £70

Code	Contravention Description	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
1	Parked in a restricted street during prescribed hours	18,054	15,407	9,390
2	Parked or loading/unloading in a restricted street where waiting and loading/unloading restrictions are in forces	1,599	1,338	552
12	Parked in a resident or shared use parking place or zone without clearly displaying either a permit, voucher or pay & display ticket	7,749	10,333	8,461
16	Parked in a permit space or zone without clearly displaying a permit	283	139	77
21	Parked wholly or partly in a suspended bay or space	24	4	5
23	Parked in a parking place or area not designated for that class of vehicle	1,092	833	376
25	Parked in a loading place during restricted hours without loading	543	249	161
26	Parked in a special enforcement area more than 50cm from the edge of the carriageway and not within a designated parking space	416	332	98
27	Parked in a special enforcement area adjacent to a dropped footway	1,056	1,110	658
28	Parked in a special enforcement area on part of the carriageway raised to meet the level of a footway, cycle track or verge	57	-	-
40	Parked in a designated disabled person's parking place without clearly displaying a valid disabled person's badge.	3,688	3,291	2,167
45	Parked on a taxi rank	270	190	115
46	Stopped where prohibited	4	12	8
47	Parked on a restricted bus top/stand	160	136	98
48	Stopped in a restricted area outside a school	98	133	73
49	Parked wholly or partly on cycle track or lane	13	5	5
61	A heavy commercial vehicle wholly or partly parked on a footway, verge or land between two carriageways	2	-	-

62	Parked with one or more wheels on or over a footpath or any part of a road other than a carriageway	2	1	2
71	Parked in an electric vehicles' charging place during restricted hours without charging	55	48	19
85	Parked in a permit bay without clearly displaying a valid permit	169	105	17
87	Parked in a disabled person's parking space without clearly displaying a valid disabled person's badge	397	239	71
89	Vehicle parked exceeds maximum weight or height or length permitted in the area	-	1	-
91	Parked in an area not designated for that class of vehicle	32	32	5
99	Stopped on a pedestrian crossing or crossing area marked by zigzags	134	109	69

Camera Enforcement

2017 saw the introduction of the Camera Enforcement Car which largely is used to monitor parking outside of schools to deter vehicles contravening parking restrictions that have been put in place to improve safety for school children. A secondary use is to monitor other no stopping restrictions such bus stops/stands which are frequently blocked by other vehicles at some locations. 2021 also saw the introduction of fixed Camera sites outside some schools where contravention of zig zag markings is highest

In the 2022/23 financial year, 773 Penalty Charge Notices were issued via the Camera Car or Fixed Cameras to vehicles in contravention of restrictions outside of schools. A further 101 Penalty Charge Notices were issued to vehicles in contravention of bus stops/stands.

Parking Representations

A penalty charge notice can be challenged if the motorist believes that it has been issued unfairly or if they believe that there are mitigating circumstances. Our in-house Representations Team will consider a written challenge/ representation and will respond formally in writing. Details of how to challenge a PCN can be found on the reverse side of the PCN issued. These can also be found on our website.

There are two stages of challenge/representation:

1. An informal challenge/representation is where correspondence is received by us after the issue of a Penalty Charge Notice, but before the service of the Notice to Owner.
2. A formal challenge/representation is correspondence received by us within 28 days from the date of service of the Notice to Owner.

It is only the registered owner/keeper of the vehicle who can make a formal challenge/representation.

Challenges/ representation may be submitted to the council at both informal and formal stages of the process. If a formal challenge is rejected, information on how an appeal can be made to the independent adjudication service (the Traffic Penalty Tribunal) will be provided. This service cannot adjudicate on whether or not the Council took the "correct" decision in response to an appeal. It can only consider whether or not the contravention occurred; the notice was properly and correctly issued; that the regulation order is properly made and signed; and other legal matters.

Information on how to challenge a PCN can be found here:

<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/roads-parking/parking/parking-fines/>

A summary of the outcome of the Penalty Charge Notices is shown in the table below;

PCN Summary	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Total number of PCNs issued	77,636	67,941	44,779
Number of PCNs paid*	44,464	36,298	23,675
Number of PCNs cancelled as a result of an informal or formal representation*	2,093	1,745	1,002
Number of PCNs written off for other reasons*	13,503	8,296	4,912

*Correct at time of publication - the state of each Penalty Charge Notice will change over time until it is resolved.