

It is important that the public understands why an authority has introduced civil parking enforcement ... supporting wider transport objectives, in particular keeping traffic moving, rather than raising revenue.

Guidance for local authorities on enforcing parking restrictions

Secretary of State for Transport

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Key



Requirement to report from Department for Transport Statutory Guidance: Guidance for local authorities on enforcing parking restrictions



Requirement to report from *Local Government Transparency Code 2015*

Introduction



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Though parking and traffic enforcement in itself attracts considerable interest from the public, the media and other external interest groups, it is the financial aspects surrounding it that provoke the strongest feelings.

There is a strong perception that enforcement acts as a 'cash cow' for local authorities.

The conclusion of the Transport Committee from its 2013 report into civil parking enforcement still stands:

'Greater transparency is essential to ensure that the public can see how local authorities are spending funds from both parking charges and enforcement activity. Local authorities must work harder to dispel any misunderstandings on parking finance. Annual reports are a key part of this and all local authorities should produce them.'

The clear presentation of financial information in an Annual Report – income, expenditure and, crucially, the use of any surplus – helps to provide the transparency required to present the local financial aspects of civil parking enforcement.

Also of importance alongside the publishing of financial information is the inclusion of statistics relating to parking and traffic enforcement in your community. While some statistics are mandatory for inclusion under Statutory Guidance and the *Transparency Code 2015*, providing a range of data on the provision and scale of the service that your team delivers over the year can really 'bring the report to life' and help the public understand how local authorities need to meet a range of outcomes for traffic management, for the benefit of residents, businesses and visitors. The use of visuals, such as graphs, pie charts and infographics aids this further still.

PATROL asked me and the independent PARC Review Group to help produce this document, which is intended to act as a template or 'blueprint' for your authority to produce an exemplar financial and statistics section of your next Annual Report.

The tables included throughout are set out to be as transparent and informative as possible, while being simple, digestible and adhering to the requirements of the Department for Transport guidance and *Transparency Code*. They are just as the Review Group would wish to see them when assessing a report for the PARC Awards. In addition, a number of graphics are included to give you a flavour of how statistics from your operational year can be presented to the reader in an engaging way.

On behalf of the Review Group, I hope the document will inspire you when compiling your next Annual Report and I very much look forward to seeing the results when assessing 2019/20 reports next year.

Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued and paid

| | 2020/21 | 2019/20 |
|---|---------|---------|
| On-street: Number of higher-level PCNs issued | 10,000 | 9,000 |
| On-street Number of lower-level PCNs issued | 5,000 | 4,000 |
| Off-street: Number of higher-level PCNs issued | 3,000 | 2,500 |
| Off-street: Number of lower-level PCNs issued | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| 50 Total PCNs issued | 23,000 | 20,500 |
| So Number of PCNs paid | 18,000 | 15,000 |
| Percentage of PCNs paid | 78% | 73% |
| Number of PCNs paid at a discount rate | 14,000 | 9,000 |
| Percentage of PCNs paid at a discount rate | 61% | 44% |
| Number of PCNs against which an informal challenge or representation was made | 3,000 | 3,500 |
| Number of PCNs cancelled as a result of an informal challenge or representation being successful | 2,000 | 1,500 |
| Number of PCNs written off for other reasons (e.g. an error by the Civil Enforcement Officer or driver untraceable) | 500 | 600 |
| Percentage of PCNs cancelled or written off | 11% | 10% |
| Number of vehicles immobilised | 27 | 24 |
| Number of vehicles removed | 10 | 19 |

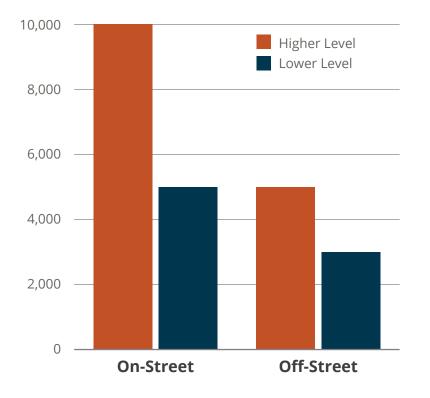
PENALTY CHARGE NOTICE 2500

Number of PCNs cancelled

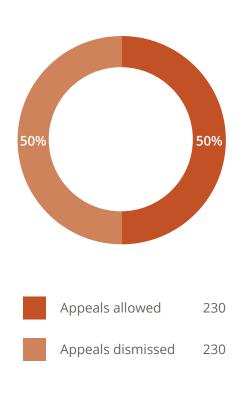
Appeals to the Traffic Penalty Tribunal

| | 2020/21 | 2019/20 |
|---|---------|---------|
| Total PCNs issued by council | 23,000 | 20,500 |
| PCNs appealed | 460 | 410 |
| Rate of appeal | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| Appeals allowed | 230 | 200 |
| Appeals dismissed | 230 | 210 |
| Appeals allowed as % of appeals submitted | 50% | 51% |

2020/21 PCNs issued



2020/21 Appeals



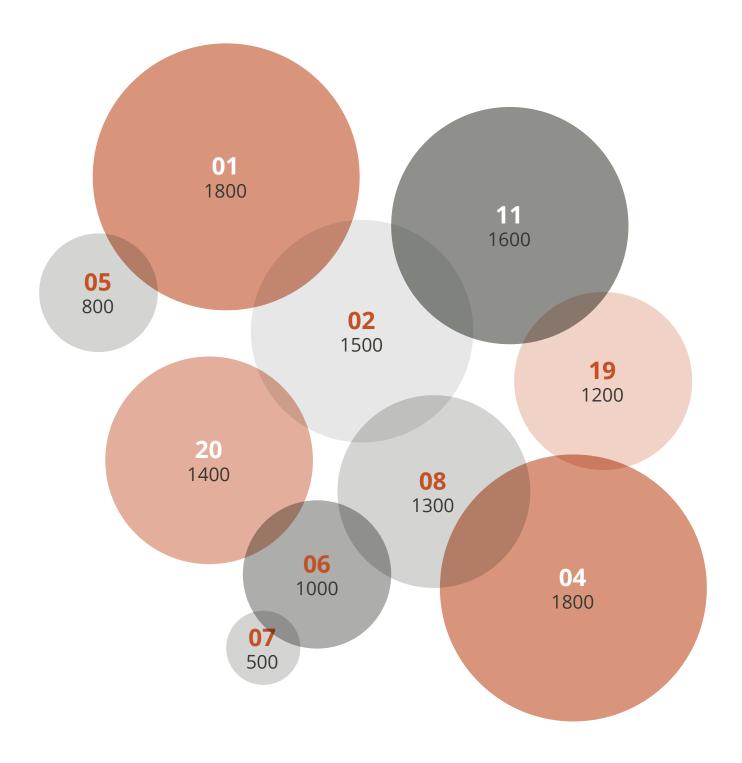
View appeal statistics for the council on the Traffic Penalty Tribunal website here.

Top 10 reasons for PCNs being issued

On-street

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| Со | ntravention code and description | | 2020/21 | 2019/20 |
|----|---|--------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Parked in a restricted street during prescribed hours | Higher | 1800 | 1800 |
| 4 | Parked in a meter bay when penalty time is indicated | Lower | 1800 | 1600 |
| 11 | Parked without payment of the parking charge | Lower | 1600 | 1500 |
| 2 | Parked or loading/unloading in a restricted street where waiting and loading/unloading restrictions are in force | Higher | 1500 | 1400 |
| 20 | Parked in a part of a parking place marked by a yellow line where waiting is prohibited | Higher | 1400 | 1300 |
| 8 | Parked at an out-of-order meter during controlled hours | Lower | 1300 | 1200 |
| 19 | Parked in a residents' or shared use parking place or zone with an invalid virtual permit or displaying an invalid physical permit or voucher or pay & display ticket, or after the expiry of paid for time | Lower | 1200 | 1000 |
| 6 | Parked without clearly displaying a valid pay & display ticket or voucher | Lower | 1000 | 800 |
| 5 | Parked after the expiry of paid for time | Lower | 800 | 500 |
| 7 | Parked with payment made to extend the stay beyond initial time | Lower | 500 | 400 |
| 82 | Parked after the expiry of paid for time | Lower | 1000 | 900 |
| 80 | Parked for longer than permitted | Lower | 900 | 800 |
| 87 | Parked in a designated disabled person's parking place without displaying a valid disabled person's badge in the prescribed manner | Higher | 800 | 750 |
| 83 | Parked in a car park without clearly displaying a valid pay & display ticket or voucher or parking clock | Lower | 750 | 700 |
| 73 | Parked without payment of the parking charge | Lower | 700 | 650 |
| 70 | Parked in a loading place or bay during restricted hours without loading | Higher | 650 | 600 |
| 86 | Not parked correctly within the markings of a bay or space | Lower | 600 | 500 |
| 92 | Parked causing an obstruction | Higher | 500 | 400 |
| 95 | Parked in a parking place for a purpose other than that designated | Lower | 400 | 250 |
| | | | | |



ON-STREET

- 01 Parked in a restricted street during prescribed hours
- **04** Parked in a meter bay when penalty time is indicated
- 11 Parked without payment of the parking charge
- Parked or loading/unloading in a restricted street where waiting and loading/unloading restrictions are in force
- 20 Parked in a part of a parking place marked by a yellow line where waiting is prohibited
- **08** Parked at an out-of-order meter during controlled hours
- 19 Parked in a residents' or shared use parking place or zone with an invalid virtual permit or displaying an invalid physical permit or voucher or pay & display ticket, or after the expiry of paid for time
- **06** Parked without clearly displaying a valid pay & display ticket or youther
- **05** Parked after the expiry of paid for time
- **07** Parked with payment made to extend the stay beyond initial time

Parking spaces

Note: Where controlled parking space is not marked out in individual parking bays or spaces, an estimate of the number of spaces is given

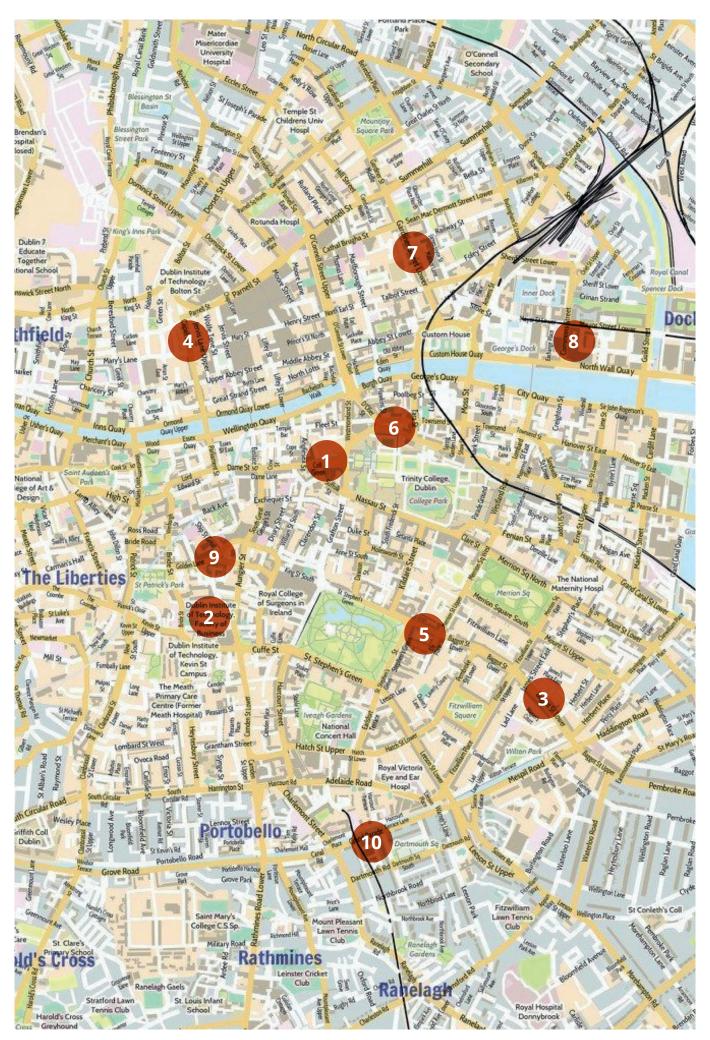
| | 2020/21 | 2020/21 | | | |
|------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|--|
| | On-street | Off-street | On-street | Off-street | |
| Number of spaces | 5,000 | 12,000 | 4,500 | 11,000 | |

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Streets with the largest number of PCNs issued

Note: The number of PCNs depends on the length of the street, as well as the number of parking contraventions

| Street | 2020/21 | 2019/20 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|
| 1 College Green | 1000 | 1800 |
| 2 Bishop Street | 1800 | 1600 |
| 3 James Street East | 1600 | 1500 |
| 4 Capel Street | 1500 | 1400 |
| 5 St Stephen's Green | 1400 | 1300 |
| 6 D'Olier Street | 1300 | 1200 |
| 7 Mabbot Lane | 1200 | 1000 |
| 8 Commons Street | 1000 | 800 |
| 9 Golden Lane | 800 | 500 |
| 10 Grand Parade | 500 | 400 |



Financial

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Income

| | 2020/21 | | 2019/20 | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | On-street | Off-street | On-street | Off-street |
| Parking payments | 300,000 | 400.000 | 275,000 | 375,000 |
| Parking permits | 125,000 | - | 120,000 | - |
| TC PCNs | 900,000 | 320,000 | 780,000 | 300,000 |
| Blue Badge application fees | - | - | - | - |
| Other | 5,000 | - | 5,000 | - |
| Total | 1,330,000 | 720,000 | 1,180,000 | 675,000 |
| | | | | |
| Enforcement | 450000 | 300000 | 430,000 | 270,000 |
| Administration | 150,000 | 100,000 | 140,000 | 130,000 |
| Maintenance | 140,000 | 50,000 | 130,000 | 45,000 |
| New parking schemes | 100,000 | 50,000 | 90,000 | 45,000 |
| Capital borrowing costs | - | 100,000 | - | 100,000 |
| Total | 840,000 | 600,000 | 790,000 | 590,000 |
| © Surplus/deficit | 490,000 | 120,000 | 390,000 | 85,000 |

07

Application of the surplus

In England, the use of surplus on the on-street parking account is set out in Section 55 of the *Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984*, as modified by Regulation 25 of the *Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (England) General Regulations 2007*. The surplus can be used for the following purposes:

- Making good any historic deficits in the parking account.
- · Providing off-street parking.
- Providing public transport.
- · Improving roads.
- Environmental improvements.

In 2020/21, the council spent the £490,000 surplus as shown opposite.

| Total | 490,000 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| New residents' parking schemes | 50,000 |
| Additional cycle lanes in Main Street | 100,000 |
| C School road safety schemes | 160,000 |
| Improving the Station Road car park | 180,000 |
| | 2020/21 |

In Wales: The use of surpluses arising from parking, bus lane and moving traffic enforcement is set out in Part 6 of *The Civil Enforcement of Road Traffic Contraventions (General Provisions) (Wales) Regulations 2013*

How we spent the surplus

£180,000

improving the Station Road car park

£160,000

on School road safety schemes

£100,000

creating additional cycle lanes in Main St

£50,000

on new resident parking schemes

Bus lane and moving traffic contraventions

England: The use of surpluses is set out in Regulation 36 of *The Bus Lane Contraventions (Penalty Charges, Adjudication and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2005*

Wales: The use of surpluses arising from parking, bus lane and moving traffic enforcement is set out in Part 6 of The Civil Enforcement of Road Traffic Contraventions (General Provisions) (Wales) Regulations 2013

a) Number of PCNs

| | | 2020/21 | 2019/20 |
|--------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| lanes | Number of PCNs | 10,000 | 9,000 |
| Bus la | Number appealed | 480 | 500 |
| В | % appealed | 4.8% | 5.6% |
| | % of appeals allowed | 45% | 45% |
| | | | |
| affic | Number of PCNs | 7,000 | 6,000 |
| g tra | Number appealed | 300 | 250 |
| Moving | % appealed | 4.3% | 4.2% |
| Ĭ | % of appeals allowed | 45% | 45% |

b) Major locations where contraventions occurred

| | | 2020/21 | 2019/20 |
|-----------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Bus lanes | Main Road | 1000 | 1800 |
| | High Street | 1800 | 1600 |
| B | Station Street | 1600 | 1500 |
| | Church Road | 1500 | 1400 |
| | Beech Road | 1400 | 1300 |
| | | | |
| traffic | Chestnut Avenue | 1300 | 1200 |
| g trö | Acacia Avenue | 1200 | 1000 |
| Moving | Lime Crescent | 1000 | 800 |
| Ĭ | Rowan Street | 800 | 500 |
| | George Road | 500 | 400 |

c) Financial

| | 2020/21 | | 2019/20 | |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| | Bus lanes | Moving traffic | Bus lanes | Moving traffic |
| Income | 800,000 | 560,000 | 720,000 | 480,000 |
| Expenditure | 450,000 | 280,000 | 400,000 | 260,000 |
| Surplus/deficit | 350,000 | 280,000 | 320,000 | 220,000 |



Notes for Local Authorities

- 1. Figures should be to the nearest £ (no pence) (although in many cases to the nearest £000 would be adequate)
- 2. Percentages over 10% should be shown to the nearest whole number (35%); percentages less than 10% should have one decimal place (2.5%)
- 3. Lists of major contraventions should be shown with the most frequent first, not in order of contravention code, and showing the top 10 or 20 at the most. Similarly, for the streets with large numbers of contraventions
- 4. All finance figures should be shown as positive. Income should not be shown as negative, which is confusing
- 5. Interest should not be shown

- 6. The figures should be reconciled, if necessary, to the local authority's submissions to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), published each year as Local Government Revenue Expenditure and Financing¹
- 7. Comparison with the previous year is normally sufficient, but longer term high-level trends can be shown if necessary
- 8. There is little point in showing monthly figures for anything, unless possibly to show the uptake of a new service or operation



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https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/local-authority-revenue-expenditure-and-financing