



Kildare County Council
Comhairle Contae Chill Dara

County Parking Policy Framework Document

Introduction

The Roads Transportation and Public Safety Directorate propose this draft document for consideration by the Elected Members of Kildare County Council. This draft County Parking Policy has been prepared with the objective of achieving consistency in the drafting and regulation of parking bye-laws, including but not solely tariffs, regulation, times of regulation, public information, accessibility and administration.

While this Policy may be adopted by the Elected Members of Kildare County Council, it should be recognised that the Elected Members of each Municipal District may exercise their right to amend/review the parking bye-laws within their own Municipal District in accordance with the social, economic and transport needs of the Municipal District.

Our Mission

Kildare County Council aims to provide a professional and consistent parking management service for the benefit of all its citizens and visitors to the county.

The Council regulates illegal parking and manages parking spaces on public roads and in public car parks to ensure a regular turn-over of parking spaces. This regulation of illegal parking and turn-over of parking spaces will make our towns more accessible and more attractive to shoppers, customers, business people and tourists.

This Policy shall act as a Framework which shall be taken into consideration by each Municipal District during the review of Bye Laws within each administrative area.

County Parking Bye-Laws: Framework Document

Regulation Times, Tariffs and Maximum Stay Periods

Bye-Law Regulation Times

It is an objective of Kildare County Council that all Bye-Laws and regulation of Bye-Laws shall be between the hours of 08.30 to 18.30 Monday to Saturday inclusive (excluding public holidays).

Tariff Parking Charges and Maximum Stay Periods

It is an objective of Kildare County Council that all parking charges are equal throughout the county. However, it is acknowledged that varying social and economic factors exist in the different towns, and these factors must be taken into consideration by the Municipal District members when setting charges.

Long Term Parking (more than two hour parking)

Long term parking shall be restricted to off-street parking.

Loading Bays

All loading bays shall be designated loading bays from 08.30 to 11.30 Monday to Saturday inclusive (excluding public holidays).

Bus Step-Down Areas

All Bus Step-Down areas shall be designated Bus Step-Down areas at anytime.

Accessible Parking Areas

Accessible parking areas shall be designated accessible parking areas at anytime.

Appointed Taxi Stand Areas

Appointed Taxi Stands shall be designated Appointed Taxi Stands at anytime. The location of any proposed designated appointed taxi stand shall be agreed by the Members in the drafting of a parking bye-law.

Suspension of Parking Bye-Laws/Free Parking Arrangements

It is an objective of Kildare County Council to be consistent in the suspension of Parking Bye-Laws or arrangements for free parking i.e., complete suspension of parking bye-laws or "free parking" with illegal parking enforced throughout the County.

Kildare County Council has a stated objective to provide support to the retail trade at all times. An important element of this support is provided during the Christmas

season when free parking is facilitated in public car parks on public roads where feasible.

The recommended period of such suspension/amendment to the regulation of parking throughout County Kildare is between 18th December and 2nd January (or next enforcement day). It is acknowledged that varying social, economic and historical factors exist in the different towns, and these factors must be taken into consideration by the Municipal District members when suspending parking bye-laws/free parking arrangements during the festive period.

Any other suspension of Parking Bye Laws or arrangements for free parking will only be considered in exceptional circumstances or as otherwise agreed by Full Council.

Parking Permits

It is an objective of Kildare County Council to provide for residential and visitor parking permits.

Residential Parking Permits

Residential parking permits will not be issued for Main Streets or high density shopping/business areas.

A maximum of three residential parking permits per household shall be issued in any one year or part thereof, on payment of the appropriate fee and subject to terms and conditions.

Visitor Parking Permits

24-hour visitor parking permits are subject to terms and conditions and will only be issued to a resident household residing in a residential parking permit zone in respect of the parking of vehicles which are not normally kept in that zone and which require to be parked temporarily in a residential permit zone for the purpose which is ancillary to the use of the residents dwelling.

Visitor permits will not be issued for Main Streets or high density shopping/business areas.

Administration of Parking

Case Management

It is an objective of Kildare County Council that all Parking Bye-Law towns shall be managed and administered through one central parking system in which all Wardens shall have the ability to monitor, patrol and issue fixed charge notices through an electronic hand held device which can be uploaded to a central administration software. It is a policy of the Council not to enforce parking bye laws through the use of vehicle clamps.

Pay Parking Methods

It is an objective of Kildare County Council that all Pay Parking Bye-Law towns shall have the capacity to pay for their parking by means of a number of methods, including but not solely:

- Cash at a parking machine
- Pay by phone
- Pay by Debit Card
- Pay via Phone App

Fine Payment Methods

The method of payment of a parking fine shall be consistent throughout County Kildare regardless of the location in which the fine has been issued. These methods of payment shall include but not solely:

- Cash at Kildare County Council Offices
- By Post
- EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer)
- 24/7 - IVR (Interactive Voice Recognition)
- By phone to Kildare County Council during normal business hours

Signs and Road Markings

Signs

All signs throughout County Kildare shall be consistent in their size, information and in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual 2010 issued by the Department of Transport and any amendment thereafter.

All car parks in the ownership of Kildare County Council shall be clearly indicated by directional signs and each car park shall clearly state "Kildare County Council Pay & Display Car Park".

Road Markings

All road marking throughout County Kildare shall be in accordance with the following publications and any amendments thereafter:

- Traffic Signs Manual issued by the Department of Transport
- Road and Street Design for all issued by Kildare County Council
- Best practice Access Guidelines issued by the Irish Wheelchair Association
- Building Regulations 2010 Technical Guidance Document (Part M) issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government
- Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets issued by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sports.