

Disabled Parking Place Policy

Background

Parking concessions for people with serious walking disabilities are an important and central feature of the council's parking and accessibility policies. The council will continue to install Disabled Parking Bays in Town Centres and near other places of interest, that may be used by any holder of a Disabled Blue Badge. Dedicated Disabled Parking Bays will be installed at the request of residents who meet the established criteria.

Dedicated Disabled Parking bays are one of the concessions offered by the council to accommodate residents with severe walking impairments. Due to parking pressures in the Borough, applications for these parking bays will be carefully considered before being approved. Each eligible applicant is entitled to one Bay for one nominated vehicle.

Eligibility Criteria

The applicant must reside within the borough and be the holder of a Disabled Person's Blue Badge. They must have no off-street parking available outside their home or workplace. The address to which the application applies, must be the applicant's main residence. The applicant must hold a full UK license registered at the applicant's address.

The applicant must be in receipt of **one** of the following;

- The higher rate of the Mobility Component of the disability living allowance elements of the Blue Badge Eligibility criteria; or
- Score 12 points or more under the 'moving around' activity of the mobility component of Personal Independence Payment (PIP); or
- The higher rate Attendance Allowance (aged 64 and over)
- The mobility component of PIP and has obtained 10 points specifically for Descriptor E under the "planning and following journeys" activity, on the grounds that they are unable to undertake any journey because it would cause them overwhelming psychological distress; or
- A War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement (WPMS); or
- Has been both awarded a lump sum benefit at tariffs 1-8 of the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and certified as having an enduring and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking;

Applicants who are not in receipt of one of the above, but who are unable to walk no more than 20 metres, may apply for a dedicated disabled bay subject to further assessment. This may involve the applicant providing additional supporting medical information and attending an assessment undertaken by a Certified Expert Assessor.

If the applicant is a passenger, the nominated driver must live with the applicant. The nominated vehicle must be registered at the applicant's address. The nominated vehicle must not exceed 2.27 meters high and 5.25 meters in length.

Dedicated disabled bays cannot be provided for residential care homes, or on private land or Homes for Haringey (HfH) Estates. HfH operate their own Disabled Parking arrangements.

Provision of Bays

If a resident wishes to convert an existing disabled parking bay in their street to a Dedicated Disabled Parking Bay, they will need to 'opt in' and complete an application to demonstrate that they meet the eligibility criteria.

Each bay will be marked by an identifying number, which also appears on the user's special permit. Changes to address or personal details must be notified to the Highways Department.

Once a dedicated disabled bay is installed, the expiry of the user's special permit will coincide with the expiry of the applicant's Disabled Blue Badge. This will allow the review of the entitlement to Dedicated Disabled bay to coincide with the renewal of the Disabled Blue Badge.

Implementation Process

An application will be assessed within 10 working days. In the situation where an assessment is required by a Certified Expert Assessor, decisions may take longer. Once an application has been accepted, the implementation timelines can be lengthy due to the need to undertake statutory consultation. Implementation of the bay is subject to the outcome of statutory consultation and in the situation where the council receives a valid objection, a decision may be made not to subsequently make the order. The process will take a minimum of 3 months from approving an application to installing the bay on the road and there may be occasions, especially in times of high demand, where this process can take up to 6 months to complete.

Appeals Process

Should the application be unsuccessful, the applicant may request a review of this decision. The review must be instigated within 30 days following the date of the decision. There are two grounds under which an applicant may appeal the decision:

- 1) They believe that the council's decision was made without regard to the eligibility criteria stated in the council's Disabled Parking Place Policy.
- 2) They believe the decision was made as the result of a mobility assessment that was not carried out in accordance with the council's policy and procedures.

If the appeal is unsuccessful under the second ground the applicant can re-apply and be considered again, once 3 months has elapsed, allowing for a change in condition, which may affect entitlement.