



Kildare County Council
Comhairle Contae Chill Dara

County Parking Policy

Framework Document

2022

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, appointed stands (Taxi), bye-laws, including but not solely tariffs, regulation, times of regulation, public information, accessibility and administration, car club and cycle parking

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, appointed stands (Taxi) bye-laws, club cars and cycle parking 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

Enforcement

It is the policy of Kildare County Council not to use clamping of vehicles as a means of parking enforcement.

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 from 09.30 to 17.30 Monday to Saturday inclusive (excluding public/bank 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 and that Parking charges apply to all designated parking areas, on-street or off-street where pay parking is regulated.

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.

Maximum Stay Periods

Town centres/high density business/shopping districts shall have a maximum stay of one hour and outer perimeter areas shall have a maximum stay of two hours.

Long Term Parking (more than two hour parking)

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

Loading Bays

Loading Bays shall be provided for commercial vehicles and operate between 09.30 to 11.30 and revert to Pay Parking from 11.30 to 17.30 Monday to Saturday inclusive (excluding public/bank holidays).

Bus Step-Down Areas

All Bus Step-Down areas shall be designated Bus Step-Down areas at any time.

Accessible Parking Areas

Accessible parking areas shall be designated accessible parking areas at any time.

Age Friendly Parking Spaces

Age Friendly Parking Spaces shall be designated in locations in consultation with Kildare County Council's Age Friendly Officer. All Age Friendly Parking Spaces shall be pay and display parking spaces.

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.

Car Parks/Park and Ride Facilities

All off-street car parks and park and ride facilities shall have a minimum charge of €4.00 per day inclusive of VAT and be provided with CCTV and Public Lighting

Club Cars and Cycle Parking

Car clubs will be encouraged and facilitated as required. Cycle Parking will be considered in all Active Travel project and for consideration by the members when revising Bye Laws.

Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws

Appointed Taxi Stands shall be designated in close proximity to Public Transport networks and town/village centres.

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.

Observation Times

The parking observation period shall be 15 minutes before the purchase of and on the expiry of a valid pay and display ticket

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.

Residential parking permits shall be made available to residents on the street in which they reside in respect of the residents vehicle which is normally kept at that address and subject to proof of residence at that location, terms and conditions as outlined in the application form. Where a resident resides on a street where there is no designated parking, or the resident resides on a Main Street or high density business/shopping area, the nearest side street with designated parking shall be provided as a parking location.

Visitor Parking Permits

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

Visitor parking permits shall be made available to residents on the street in which they reside subject to proof of residence at that location, terms and conditions as outlined in the application form. Where a resident resides on a street where there is no designated parking, or the resident resides on a Main Street or high density business/shopping area the nearest side street with designated parking street shall be provided as a parking location.

Visitor parking permits shall be provided to the resident in respect of the parking of vehicles which are not normally kept at that address and which require to be parked temporarily in a residential permit area for the purpose which is ancillary to the use of the residents dwelling.

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.

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:

- 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)
- By phone to Kildare County Council during normal business hours

Pay Parking and Illegal Parking Revenue Surplus

Surplus revenue generated from Pay Parking and Illegal Parking shall be allocated to the MD to which the revenue is generated and used on projects within the MD in consultation with the Elected Members

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.