

What are the new rules?

New Scotland wide parking legislation means it is now illegal to

- park on pavements
- double park
- park at pedestrian crossing points
- park on road verges, which lie between roads and pavements.

These new rules came into law on Monday 11 December 2023 and we will begin enforcement in January 2024.

Why are they being introduced?

The new rules will make it safer for pedestrians and other road users to move around our streets and public spaces.

Parking on pavements

- prevents people from walking safely on pavements and around their neighbourhood
- can be hazardous for people with disabilities or those pushing prams or buggies
- damages pavements, which are expensive to repair and become a trip hazard for everyone.

Double parking and parking at dropped kerbs and crossing points

- can make it dangerous for vulnerable people to cross the road safely
- prevents people in wheelchairs from crossing the road where vehicles are parked next to dropped kerbs.

When are they being introduced?

Councils in Scotland have the power to implement the new rules from December 2023 and enforcement of the new rules will start in Edinburgh in January 2024. We'll distribute targeted letters as soon as we have a confirmed date in January for when enforcement of the new rules will start and we will also regularly update our website with relevant information: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newparkingrules

How will it be enforced?

Parking attendants will have powers to issue parking tickets to vehicles parked on pavements, at pedestrian crossing points, dropped kerbs or double parked. A parking ticket will be issued at the national level of £100 but reduced to £50 if paid within the first 14 days. A vehicle may also be removed to the Council's car pound where a removal charge of £190 would apply.

Find out more about vehicle removal charges on our website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/carpound

How much will the fine be?

£100. This is reduced to £50 if paid within the first 14 days. If payment is not made within 28 days, the charge will increase to £150. Thereafter Sheriff Officers would be instructed to collect the outstanding balance.

There is a dropped kerb at the driveway to my home, can I park in front of it?

Yes, the new rules do not apply to parking at driveways, garages or property entrances. However, if there's an existing restriction already in place, such as a single yellow line, this will still apply. However, you should not park on the pavement outside your driveway as this could still be enforced.

Someone else has parked over my driveway can you help?

Unfortunately, no. The new parking rules do not apply to driveways. However, if the vehicle is parked on the footway outside your driveway we may be able to help.

Parking across a driveway may constitute an obstruction and you should report this to Police Scotland on their non-emergency number '101.'

There is a short dropped kerb outside my front door will this be enforced?

There are many types of pedestrian crossing points around the city, but only those intended to help pedestrians cross the road to the other side are likely to be enforced. These mainly include where

- a designated crossing has been introduced such as a Pelican crossing
- where a pedestrian island is situated
- at the end of the street
- where tactile paving is located, or
- where a dropped crossing is directly opposite on the other side of the road.

Some dropped kerbs help to facilitate the collection of communal waste bins and you should avoid parking where you may impede the collection of refuse.

There is a raised crossing point in the middle of my street, will this be enforced?

Yes, the prohibition on parking at pedestrian crossing points also applies where the carriageway has been raised to meet the level of the pavement.

Will there be any exceptions?

Only the following are exceptions to the new rules:

- Emergency services and medical practitioners in emergency situations.
- To allow for certain deliveries and collections with certain conditions
 - only if the vehicle is unable to wait on the road
 - the vehicle must leave 1.5m of footway width for pedestrians to pass, and
 - deliveries and collections can only be for a maximum of 20 minutes.
- Vehicles used to do works on roads or removal of obstructions.

These exceptions are only valid if specific criteria is met and there is no other reasonable parking available. You can Find full details of the exceptions in the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 at www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/17/contents and a link is also available on our new parking rules webpage.

Are delivery drivers exempt?

There is no specific exception for delivery drivers, and they are expected to follow the rules of the road like any other driver. However, in certain limited circumstances should all conditions be met, there are allowances to wait on the pavement or double park to allow essential deliveries to be completed. You can Find full details of the exceptions in the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 at:

www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/17/contents and a link is also available on our new parking rules webpage.

Are taxis exempt?

Taxis are not exempt and drivers are expected to park or wait correctly at all times.

Is there a legal requirement for an observation period to be observed for double parking, parking on a pavement, parking at a dropped kerb?

No. Parking tickets can be issued immediately.

The new rules mean there will be fewer parking spaces in my street, where should I park?

We recognise that the new rules may cause some initial disruption on some streets more than others. However, there will be no exemptions and drivers may need to find alternative parking in another location.

People currently park on the pavement on both sides of my street, how will I know which side of the street to park on when the new rules go live?

There are many residential streets in Edinburgh where parking can only be accommodated on one side of the road. You may want to consider the location of any disabled persons' parking places, bin hubs or other parking restrictions already in your street or park on the near-side (passenger side) to make reverse parking easier.

Will you be putting double yellow lines in some streets?

There are currently no proposals to introduce double yellow lines, or other mitigation measures, for the new parking rules at this time. However, we will monitor the impact of the new rules and if it is required for traffic management or road safety purposes, then additional restrictions may be considered. However, new restrictions would need to go through a legal process, known as a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), part of which includes a public consultation on the proposals so everyone would be able to have their say on the matter.

What if cars, parked fully on the road, block streets because there is not enough space and prevent access for emergency services/public transport/refuse collection?

This could already happen in some streets around the city, but is not a common occurrence. However, this may constitute an obstruction to the road which should be reported to Police Scotland on their non-emergency number '101.'

It is the responsibility of each driver to park their vehicle considerately and where this would not cause an obstruction to the road.

Do you have enough Parking Attendants to enforce this?

Yes, there are enough Parking Attendants to enforce the new rules.

Are Disabled Persons' Blue Badge holders exempt?

No, Blue Badge holders are not exempt from the new parking rules.

Where can I report double parking, footway parking or parking at a pedestrian crossing/dropped kerb?

You can report these on our website and a link to our online form can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newparkingrules

Where can I find the survey of my street?

You can find the full audit of footway parking streets report on our website and if your street was included for further detailed considerations, at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newparkingrules

In our street we've always parked on the pavement, where can we apply for an exemption?

The new rules apply to all circumstances and the Council has decided that there will be no exemptions. There is no application process available to residents or businesses for an exemption to the rules.

What additional signage is planned?

The new rules are a national prohibition that does not require additional signage. Signs would only be put up if exemptions were introduced and it is the Council's current position that no exemptions are to be permitted.

How are you making drivers aware of the new parking rules?

There is a national publicity campaign, more details are available on the Road Safety Scotland website, roadsafety.scot, a direct link to the campaign page can also be found on our www.edinburgh.gov.uk/newparkingrules webpage.

The Council will also be raising awareness locally; using social media, press articles, lamp post wraps, warning flyers and we'll be writing to residents in streets where this may have a significant impact on parking.