



Changes to Parking Enforcement in Wrexham County Borough from 1 March 2008

On 1 March 2008 a major change will be introduced to the way in which the County Borough's parking regulations are enforced.

If you park correctly this change will not affect you in any way.

If you park in the wrong place, or don't pay for the amount of time you park, when you return to your vehicle you may find a penalty charge notice on your windscreen.

P What will happen on 1 March?

On that date Wrexham County Borough Council will take over responsibility from North Wales Police for managing parking enforcement throughout the County Borough. From then on parking attendants employed by the Council will be on patrol on the streets and Council car parks. The Council's parking attendants will issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCN's) to drivers of vehicles who have parked in contravention of any regulations in force at the time.

The Police will still issue Fixed Penalty Notices to vehicles causing obstructions on the highway. All other parking, loading and waiting offences will come under the remit of the Council's parking attendants.

P Why the Change?

The new parking enforcement arrangement is not about raising revenue. There are a number of reasons all of which will benefit people living in, working in and visiting the County Borough.

- Encouraging sensible and safe parking.
- Improving safety for drivers and pedestrians.
- Improving the general flow of traffic and journey times through the County Borough.
- Preventing emergency and public service vehicles from finding their routes blocked.
- Improving the general environment.

- Freeing the police to concentrate their resources on issues felt by the public to be more directly their responsibility.

Over 220 local authorities around the country are already managing parking enforcement in their areas and have seen the benefits; many other local authorities will take on this responsibility in the future.

The official name for these changes is 'decriminalised parking enforcement' and means that parking enforcement by the Council stops being a criminal offence but becomes a civil contravention.

P Parking in Wrexham County Borough

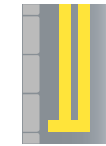
It is your responsibility to park your vehicle correctly. Here are some reminders of where not to park.

Don't Park...

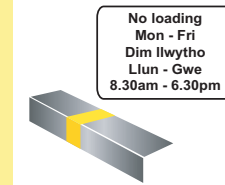
- In areas where waiting and loading restrictions are in force at the time;
- In a reserved bay (e.g. for blue badge holders) without correctly displaying a valid permit;
- At a bus stop or in a bus lane during prohibited times;
- On mandatory zig-zag lines outside a school or by pedestrian crossings;
- On the pavement or grass verges behind waiting restrictions in force at the time;
- In a pay and display space without paying the correct amount for the duration of your stay;
- For longer than any limited waiting restriction or return to the space within the stated time limit;

If you are not sure, check what is on the sign which applies to the place where you are thinking of parking.

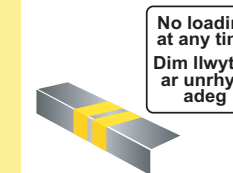
No waiting at any time
Signs are no longer required along double yellow lines and will gradually be removed.



No loading during times shown on the sign



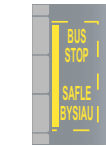
No loading at any time



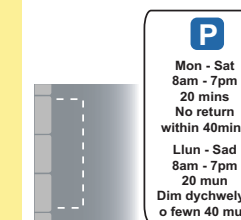
No waiting during times shown on the sign
Where there are single or double yellow lines you may stop while passengers get into or out of the vehicle and may load as long as you are not causing an obstruction.



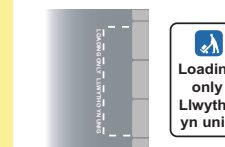
Bus stop clearway
No stopping during the times shown on the sign.



Limited waiting



Loading bay
Vehicles must not park if they are not loading or unloading.



P Dispensations

There may be special occasions when you need to park on yellow lines or in parking bays for longer than the time allowed. A dispensation may be available for this.

P I've got a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) and I think it has been wrongly issued

If you think the PCN should not have been issued, write to us (the address will be on the back of the PCN) saying why you believe it was incorrectly issued. Please enclose any additional evidence i.e. pay and display tickets. We will write back to you with our decision. If the PCN hasn't been cancelled and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the independent Parking Adjudication Service. We will tell you how to do this.

P Paying a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN)

Details of how to pay a PCN will be shown on the back of the PCN. If you receive a PCN you have a month in which to pay the charge as stated on the PCN. If you pay within 14 days the charge will be reduced by 50%. If you don't pay and we have to take steps to recover the money from you, then it will increase by 50% or possibly even more.

P Where can I find further information?

For PCN queries, contact
By Post Wales Penalty Processing Partnership,
P.O. Box 273,
Rhyl, LL19 9EJ

By Phone 0845 6056556

For all other parking services, contact
By Post Parking Services,
Wrexham County Borough Council,
Transportation & Asset Management,
Crown Buildings, Wrexham,
LL13 8BG

By Phone 01978 292042
By Email parking@wrexham.gov.uk
Web Address www.wrexham.gov.uk

If you require information in accessible formats including large print, Braille, audio-cassette, on computer disk or in languages other than English and Welsh please let us know.