

Vehicle removal policy



Camden Council vehicle removal policy

Introduction

Camden Council aims to have a fair and clear approach to the removal of vehicles. We therefore operate a removal policy which prioritises vehicles that are parked dangerously, or causing an obstruction.

Potential removals, in other words vehicles that have already been issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN), are prioritised as follows:

Priority 1

Contraventions liable to instant removal following the issue of a PCN. This applies to codes where vehicles immediately cause an obstruction.

Priority 2

Contraventions not liable to removal unless one of the following applies:

- a)** a Civil Enforcement Officer (CEO) has identified the vehicle as being parked in an obstructive manner following the issue of a PCN; or
 - b)** the vehicle has been issued with two PCNs on consecutive days whilst parked in the same parking place and it is at least 24 hours since the issue of the first PCN.
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Priority 3

Contraventions liable to removal from a resident or shared use place or zone after a minimum grace period of 14 days following the expiry of a resident parking permit.

What is an obstruction?

A vehicle will be considered to be causing an obstruction, and therefore liable to removal, if it is parked:

- on school 'keep clear' markings
- on zig-zag markings
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- parked on the footway or where the kerb has been lowered or the carriageway raised to enable pedestrian or vehicle accessibility
- parked where you would obstruct cyclists' use of a cycle lane or facilities
- on a bus stop
- obstructing traffic flow, i.e. where vehicles would need to move into the path of oncoming traffic to get past or anywhere you would prevent access for emergency services
- parked in a suspended bay
- special events
- parked in a disabled person's bay (without a valid badge and including blue badge fraud).

Priority 1 – Contraventions liable to instant removal

Contravention code	Description
02	Parked or loading / unloading in a restricted street where waiting and loading / unloading restrictions are in force
16*	Parked in a permit space or zone without a valid virtual permit or clearly displaying a valid physical permit where required
21	Parked wholly or partly in a suspended bay or space
40	Parked in a designated disabled person's parking place without displaying a valid disabled person's badge in the prescribed manner
47	Stopped on a restricted bus stop or stand
48	Stopped in a restricted area outside a school, a hospital or a fire, police or ambulance station when prohibited
49	Parked wholly or partly on a cycle track or lane
62	Parked with one or more wheels on or over a footpath or any part of a road other than a carriageway
99	Stopped on a pedestrian crossing or crossing area marked by zigzags
Any	If a vehicle is a persistent evader** or suspected of blue badge fraud, we reserve the right to remove the vehicle under any contravention code, not restricted to those above

*Contravention Code 16 is used for vehicles seen parked in designated permit bays without a valid permit for that bay. Valid permits might be held by dedicated blue badge holders or green badge holders, doctors, traders, business and car club vehicles.

**Persistent evader – a vehicle that has a minimum of three outstanding PCNs beyond the stage at which an appeal can be made.

Priority 2 – Contraventions that may be liable to removal

Contravention code	Description
01	Parked in a restricted street during prescribed hours
05	Parked after the expiry of paid-for time
11	Parked without payment of the parking charge
12	Parked in a residents' or shared use parking place or zone without a valid virtual permit or clearly displaying a valid physical permit or voucher or pay and display ticket issued for that place where required, or without payment of the parking charge
14	Parked in an electric vehicles' charging place during restricted hours without charging
19***	Parked in a residents' or shared use parking place or zone with an invalid virtual permit or displaying an invalid physical permit or voucher or pay and display ticket, or after the expiry of paid for time
23	Parked in a parking place or area not designated for that class of vehicle
24	Not parked correctly within the markings of the bay or space
25	Parked in a loading place or bay during restricted hours without loading
26	Parked in a special enforcement area more than 50cm from the edge of the carriageway and not within a designated parking place
27	Parked in a special enforcement area adjacent to a footway, cycle track or verge lowered to meet the level of the carriageway
28	Parked in a special enforcement area on part of the carriageway raised to meet the level of a footway, cycle track or verge
30	Parked for longer than permitted
41	Stopped in a parking place designated for diplomatic vehicles
42	Parked in a parking place designated for police vehicles

***Contravention code 19(z) - see Priority 3 below

Priority 3 – Contraventions liable to removal after a 14-day grace period

Contravention code	Description	Notes
19(z) ****	<p>Parked in a residents' or shared use parking place or zone with an invalid virtual permit or displaying an invalid physical permit or voucher or pay and display ticket, or after the expiry of paid for time</p> <p>Suffix z = out of date permit</p>	<p>A vehicle with an expired residents' permit will not be removed unless the permit has expired by a period of fourteen days and the vehicle is parked within a bay for which that permit would have been valid.</p>

****This grace period does not apply to expired visitor permit holders.

Relevant legislation

This policy has been developed in accordance with the statutory provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004, which governs the enforcement of parking contraventions and 'The Highway Code'.

Traffic Management Act 2004

The Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations 1986, regulation 5C(2) (inserted by S.I. 2007/3484)

Highway Code

This policy does not relate to abandoned vehicles on the highway as these are dealt with by Camden Council's Environment Services.

Report an abandoned vehicle