



Department
for Transport

From the Parliamentary
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To the Council Leaders of all
English Traffic Authorities

Cc: Relevant Local Authority
Chief Executives

4 October 2013

Dear Leader,

Increasing the use of Restricted Parking Zones

I am writing to draw your attention to the existence of restricted parking zones as a useful and effective tool in our armoury for reducing yellow lines and other clutter often associated with schemes to manage parking and loading.

Restricted parking zones were originally developed for areas where very narrow roads resulted in conventional yellow lines being visually intrusive. Such zones are increasingly now also used in urban areas and town centres where it is desired to enhance the environment, for example by improved road surface treatment, and have also been used in some residential areas.

Restricted parking zones work where there are uniform waiting and loading restrictions throughout the zone so they are suitable for single streets or clearly defined small areas. They are indicated by zone entry signs and time plates within the zone but without yellow lines or kerb marks. Where appropriate, parking bays and associated upright signs can also be used to indicate where parking or loading may take place.

New signs for restricted parking zones were prescribed in the Traffic Signs (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations and General Directions 2011 and therefore no longer need to be authorised by the Department. In doing this we took the opportunity to improve public understanding by including the word 'parking' on the zone entry and repeater signs.

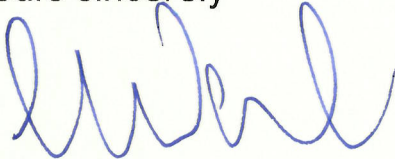
Local authorities are best placed to judge which form of control best serves their particular situation, but I hope you will agree that restricted parking zones offer an alternative solution that will help to minimise the amount of clutter on our roads. I would be grateful for your help in furthering the use of this form of arrangement to manage parking and loading restrictions where appropriate.

If you want to find out more

The Department provides detailed advice on restricted parking zones in the Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 3 at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/223943/traffic-signs-manual-chapter-03.pdf

Yours sincerely



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