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Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019

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Dear Resident/Business,

### **Proposed Extension to Controlled Parking Zone (F)**

Folkestone & Hythe District Council introduced a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in parts of East Folkestone recently. The scheme has removed the long-term commuter and office-worker parking from residential roads within the CPZ, and has helped considerably to improve road safety by protecting sight lines and property accesses.

Since the scheme was introduced, a number of residents outside the CPZ have also raised issues about long-term parking problems and obstructive parking. These residents have requested similar parking controls to be introduced in their roads. To gauge the support for such controls, the Council's Cabinet Member for Transport has therefore agreed to consult you on CPZ proposals for your street, which would be an extension of the existing zone F as shown on the enclosed map.

As a resident or business of this area, you are requested to indicate on the enclosed questionnaire whether you would like your road to be included in the CPZ.

We would urge you to complete the enclosed questionnaire, even if you do not own a vehicle, as parking could affect your visitors and we would like the views of enough people to obtain an accurate and conclusive result. Please return the completed questionnaire by **21<sup>st</sup> January 2019**. The final decision rests with the Cabinet Member for Transport.

A brief summary of how the CPZ will operate in your road is provided below:

- All kerbside space will be controlled during the operational hours indicated on the signs. The operational times for the existing CPZ are all days (excluding bank holidays), 8am-6pm, and it is proposed to retain these hours.
- Yellow lines will be introduced at junctions, bends and pinch points where parking is not allowed.
- 'Shared use' or 'permit holders only' parking are being proposed in all roads. Non-permit holders will be permitted to park for a limited period of one hour in 'shared-use' bays.
- The holder of a resident or business permit will be allowed to park in the 'shared use' bays during the operational hours with no time limit.

Residents may purchase visitor permits for their visitors. Permit charges are shown in the table below.

- The CPZ is intended to protect parking for local residents during the scheme's operational hours, but cannot guarantee a parking space close to your property.
- By law, Blue Badge holders are allowed to park their vehicle without the need for a permit provided that a valid disabled persons' badge is displayed.

### **How will the permits work?**

If you own a car or a van and plan to park on the street during the operational hours of the proposed parking zone, you will need a permit. Similarly, you will need to buy visitor permits if people visit you by car and you want them to be able to park in a parking space near to your home. If you do not need to park on-street, you will not need a permit.

**Resident Permits** - Permits will be issued only to residents whose vehicles are registered at the address within the proposed zone. Residents will be entitled to up to two permits per household.

**Resident Visitor Permits** - Residents will be able to purchase visitor permits for their visitors online. It is not necessary to hold a resident permit to purchase visitor permits. The number of visitor permits residents could purchase will be limited to 50 a year to prevent abuse such as sales to non-residents. However, this number can be increased in exceptional circumstances.

**Business Permits** - Businesses based within the CPZ may purchase permits for vehicles essential to the operation of the business (e.g. delivery vehicles). They will not be issued for the purpose of commuting to work.

**Health and Care Workers Permits** - Residents are eligible to apply for a Special Permit if they receive regular visits from care or other support service organisations, for example, home helps, carers. This permit is free.

**Tradesperson's Permits** - Builders and other tradespersons can use residents' visitor permits to allow vehicles to park close to their client's homes while work is being carried out. Tradesmen can also buy parking waivers directly from the council.

**Blue Badge Holders** - The normal exemptions for blue badge holders would apply on yellow lines. Vehicles displaying a disabled person's blue badge would be permitted to park in shared use and permit holder spaces without displaying a permit.

**Shared Permit** - If you have off-street parking for one vehicle, and your household/business has more than one vehicle, it may be possible to be issued with a shared permit that will cover other vehicles. The permit will cover the registration numbers of the vehicles but will allow only one vehicle to park on-street at any one time during the hours of control.

### Controlled Parking Zone Permit Charge

<b><i>Type of permit</i></b>	<b><i>Cost</i></b>
Resident permit	£30 per year
Additional Resident permit	£30 per year
Shared Resident permit	£30 per year
Business permit	£60 per year
Replacement permit	£5.20
Special permit (Health and Care Workers)	Free
Resident Visitor permits (Maximum 50 permits)	£5.20 per 5 sessions

If you require any further information on the proposals, please email [tro.consultation@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:tro.consultation@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Frederick Miller  
Transportation Manager

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Q. Why must I buy a permit to park in my own road?**

A. The new parking scheme will make it easier for you to park, but the scheme will cost money to set up, run and enforce. Therefore a small charge needs to be made to cover the running costs of the proposed system.

### **Q. I pay Council Tax and road tax, why do I have to pay for a parking permit as well?**

A. Council tax and road tax contribute towards services that are available to the entire population such as education, social services and highway maintenance. Controlled parking schemes only affect a small area. By law, the costs need to be met by the scheme itself through sales of permits.

### **Q. I am a business owner. Are my staff allowed a business parking permit?**

A. No. The business permit aims to make parking easier for rate-paying business owners who require a vehicle for operational reasons. It is not meant to provide subsidised parking for employees.

### **Q. Will owning a parking permit guarantee me a space outside my home?**

A. No. A controlled parking scheme on the public highway cannot reserve specific spaces for individual users and therefore we cannot guarantee a particular parking space. However, by preventing long-stay parking by non-residents in your area, a CPZ makes it much more likely that residents are able to find parking spaces near to their homes.

### **Q. Will the scheme make it easier to park at night?**

A. No. Problems at night occur in areas where some households own more than one vehicle, off-street parking is limited, and there is not enough space for the number of cars. What a CPZ will do is prevent commuter and long-stay parking and so increase the number of spaces for residents and businesses during the hours of operation.

### **Q. I have a crossover (a driveway crossing the pavement) and at the moment I park over it. Will I still be able to do this?**

A. Yes. Unlike some councils, Folkestone & Hythe has designed its scheme so that you can continue to do so with a valid parking permit.

### **Q. Can my visitors park in the controlled parking zone?**

A. You will be able to buy resident's visitor permits online to enable your visitors to park in the 'permit holders only' or 'shared use' spaces. Visitors will also be able to park without a permit in 'shared use' bays for up to the maximum period indicated on the signs.

**Q. What about tradesmen, engineers or builders working at my home?**

A. A maintenance engineer or builder undertaking a call would be able to use a resident's visitor permit to park in a 'permit holders only' or 'shared use' space. Special arrangements may be possible when long-term building works are being undertaken.

**Q. What about deliveries?**

A. Provided no obstruction is caused, legitimate delivery vehicles will be able to park without a permit for as long as necessary in permit spaces or on yellow lines while loading or unloading provided there are no loading restrictions in place at that location.

**Q. We don't have a parking problem so why include my road?**

A. If we introduced a parking scheme to a busy road, many people will park further out -perhaps in your road if they can park there for free. So it may be in your interest to be part of the zone rather than just sit outside it - but of course, this is a matter for you to consider.

**Q. Yellow lines give us less room to park. Why have them?**

A. We will only install yellow lines where parked vehicles would cause danger or obstruct other motorists or pedestrians using the highway. We put yellow lines only where they are absolutely necessary.

**Q. Do we have to have signs, posts and lines?**

A. To enable a CPZ to be enforced, it is necessary to install road markings and signs in some roads. However, we are very conscious of the appearance of the street scene so we try to keep signage to an absolute minimum. We also try to locate signs in places that minimise the visual impact from properties

**Q. What about outside the hours of operation?**

A. Outside the operational hours of the zone, no restrictions apply and parking in permit areas is not controlled or restricted. Single yellow line controls will not apply either, so you may park your vehicle on them subject to the Highway Code. The only exception is where double yellow lines exist, which prevent parking at all times.

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## Controlled Parking Zone (F) Extension Questionnaire

Please complete the questionnaire and return it by post in the prepaid envelope (no stamp is required) to reach us by the **21 January 2019**. Your views are important to us!

Address:.....  
.....  
..... Post Code:.....

Q1 Are you a:

☐ Resident ☐ Business

Q2 Would you like to see your road included in the proposed CPZ extension?

☐ Yes ☐ No preference  
☐ No

***Only answer Q3 if you said 'no' to Q2***

Q3 If parking controls were introduced in the road next to yours, would you then want your road to be included?

☐ Yes ☐ No preference  
☐ No

Q4 Do you own or keep a vehicle at your residence?

☐ Yes  
☐ No

If yes, how many are kept and used at your residence by you and any other occupants?

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Please add any further comments you wish to make regarding parking:

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