CPE Fact Sheet

What is Civil Parking Enforcement?

Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) is being introduced in the Borough of Kettering on 3rd February 2020, under an agreement with Northamptonshire County Council. Kettering Borough Council staff will enforce on-street parking controls instead of the police and under the new powers the Council is able to retain the income from penalties and therefore employ more staff to enforce the existing rules. KBC will continue to enforce off-street and residential parking zones.

Why are we doing this?

CPE gives us greater capacity to reduce unsafe and inconsiderate parking. This helps to:-

- Ease congestion caused by inconsiderate parking
- Improves road safety
- Provides parking for specific users such as residents, businesses and blue badge holders
- Increase the turnover of parking spaces, making it easier for visitors and shoppers to park
- Provide facilities for loading and unloading

What will be different?

The main differences are:-

- Most parking contraventions, including parking on yellow lines and in parking bays, are no longer a criminal offence.
- Use of a type of parking ticket, called a Penalty Charge Notice or PCN
- Kettering Borough Council enforces the parking controls. Any income from the scheme is used to fund the costs of enforcement and if there are any surplus funds then these will be used to improve local transport
- Enforcement of parking will be carried out by Kettering Borough Council staff, not the police
- The penalty charge levels in Kettering will be the same as the penalties for the rest of the County. Charges will be higher for parking offences that are potentially dangerous. A 50% discount will be available to any motorist who pays within the first 14 days. More info on penalty charge notices can be found at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/parking
- The council currently enforce parking controls in council owned car parks and in residents parking zones; we will continue to do this, and these areas will be covered by the CPE scheme.

If you currently park on street but are unsure about what rules are for parking then please visit www.northamptonshiretraffweb.co.uk. This will explain what the rules are for parking on every street in the Borough. You can search by street so it should be quick for you to find.
What do we enforce?

We will be responsible for off-street car parks and on-street parking controls, in particular.

- Double and single yellow lines
- Blue badge bays
- Limited waiting bays
- Taxi ranks
- Loading bays
- Parking in bus lanes and stops
- Zig-zag markings at schools (if restrictions apply) and pedestrian crossings

The police will continue to be responsible for dealing with:-

- Dangerously parked vehicles including where there are no parking restrictions in place such as on bends, brows of hills and junctions
- Obstructions offences – for example pavement with no parking restrictions
- Moving traffic offences including double white lines, one-way traffic, white hatched areas and box junctions.

You can report these issues to the police by calling 101

Fine levels

There are two levels of PCN fines

- Higher - £70
- Lower - £50

There is a 50% reduction for payment within the first **14 days**.

Contraventions are divided into higher and lower level offences. Some examples are listed below.

Higher offence (£70 PCN)

- Parking in a permit zone without a permit
- Parking on double yellow lines
- Parking in waiting or loading bays
- Parking in a car park without a parking ticket

Lower offence (£50 PCN)

- Parking in a car park where the parking ticket has expired.

How do I pay a parking fine?

You can pay a parking fine on the Northamptonshire County Councils website at :-

[https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/northamptonshire-highways/parking/Pages/pay-a-parking-fine.aspx](https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/northamptonshire-highways/parking/Pages/pay-a-parking-fine.aspx)
How do I appeal a parking fine?

You can appeal a parking fine on the Northamptonshire County Councils website at:
https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/northamptonshire-highways/parking/Pages/parking-fine-appeal.aspx

Are there any roads within the Borough not included in the CPE?

There is one section of road that is not included in the new scheme on the A14.

A14 Catthorpe to Felixstowe Eastbound and Westbound carriageways within the county of Northamptonshire from the boundary of the district of Kettering (at Ordnance Survey National Grid reference point SP7562579139) to the boundary of Kettering District with the boundary of East Northamptonshire District (at Ordnance Survey National Grid reference point SP9345776955), together with the associated slip roads.

Will I get a parking ticket?

No, as long as you park in compliance with the parking rules. Wherever you park please do so safely and considerately; there are plenty of car parks across the Borough, information can be found on https://www.kettering.gov.uk/info/20011/parking/12035/

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It is your responsibility to always check the signage in place before leaving your vehicle.

Parking Enforcement across the county

All the other Boroughs in the County of Northamptonshire are covered by a CPE, they have the same fine levels and the same rules. We are working very closely with Northamptonshire County Council. They will take all the payments for the penalties and will also consider your appeal if you think that the PCN has been wrongly issued; they already provide this service for all of the other Boroughs. For any further issues please email CPE@kettering.co.uk

Where does the money go?

CPE is self-financing. Any extra income after administration and enforcement costs is used to improve local transport. This includes parking improvements, traffic management, better public transport and facilities for pedestrians or cyclists. We will publish an annual report which will detail the level of income we have received, the costs of the scheme and how any surplus was spent.
How is the service funded?

The new Civil Parking Enforcement scheme enables the Council to retain the income from penalty charge notices (PCNs). This will enable us to employ more staff to enforce the existing rules.

How will the money be used?

Any income from the scheme is used to fund the costs of enforcement and if there are any surplus funds then these will be used to improve local transport.