

## New Parking Policy - FAQs

Council endorsed the Neighbourhood Parking Policy on Monday 12 May 2014. This means there will be changes to parking across the City of Sydney, excluding the city centre. The changes will be rolled out progressively across the City over 12 months from August 2014.

### Overview of the new policy

#### What area does the new policy apply to?

The whole local government area, excluding the city centre (CBD) and Haymarket.

#### What are the main changes in the policy?

The key changes of the Neighbourhood Parking Policy are:

- Reducing parking areas from 32 to 16
- Introducing daily visitor permits (replaces annual visitor permits where they currently exist)
- Introducing business permits (with tighter eligibility criteria than existing scheme)
- Zoning of new parking areas - Households in zone "A" (Kings Cross/Potts Point/Elizabeth Bay) are eligible for fewer resident and visitor permits than households in "B" zone areas.

### Changes to parking areas

#### What is happening to my parking area?

The total number of parking areas will reduce from 32 to 16. Maps and descriptions of boundary changes are available [here](#).

There are no changes to 6 parking areas:

- Central Business District [Area CBD](#) (excluded from this policy)
- West Paddington [Area 15](#) – previously known as Flinders Street
- Millers Point [Area 16](#)
- Darlinghurst [Area 17](#)
- East Sydney [Area 21](#) – previously known as Stanley Street
- Woolloomooloo [Area 28](#)

The amalgamation of 2 or more former areas will create 5 new parking areas:

- Centennial Park/South Paddington [Area 13](#) – Centennial Park (13) and South Paddington (31)
- Surry Hills [Area 18](#) – Surry Hills (18), Central (25), Campbell Street (27) and Cleveland Street (29)
- Kings Cross [Area 19](#) – Elizabeth Bay (19), Potts Point (23) and Kings Cross (26)
- Pyrmont/Ultimo [Area 20](#) – Pyrmont (20) and Ultimo (14)
- Chippendale [Area 32](#) – Darlington (32) and Chippendale (24)

The remaining 5 areas will be created through more complex boundary changes to former parking areas:

- Glebe Area G – all of the Glebe precinct plus the area of Camperdown (30) north of Parramatta Road
- Newtown Area 22 – all of Newtown (22) precinct, area of Camperdown (30) south of Parramatta Road and part of Macdonaldtown (36) north of the railway line
- Zetland, Beaconsfield, Rosebery Area 35 – all of Beaconsfield (34), Zetland (37) & Rosebery (38), with most of Alexandria (35), and a small area of Waterloo (39)
- Erskineville/Alexandria Area 36 – southern area of Macdonaldtown (36), all of Erskineville (40), plus the north-western areas of Alexandria (35) and Waterloo (39)
- Redfern Area 41 – all of Baptist Street (33) and Redfern (41), plus most of Waterloo (39)

### **How will I know that there are changes to my parking area boundaries?**

Letters will be sent to residents with current parking permits to update them on changes to parking area boundaries and when they will come into effect. Once the changes happen you can continue to park where you usually do, as well as the wider area of your new parking area when the spaces close to your home are full.

Where necessary the parking area number on signs will be changed as part of the boundary changes.

### **Will I get a new permit?**

No, you can continue to use your current permit until it expires. If you live in a parking area that is amalgamating with another area, the number of your parking area may change. The City will send you a letter to explain any changes that impact on you.

## **Visitor permits**

### **What form will the visitor permit scheme take?**

The new visitor permits will be available across the City of Sydney, excluding the city centre. They will be daily “scratchie” permits that can only be used once. The existing annual schemes in Glebe, Ultimo, Pyrmont and Millers Point will revert to the new daily scheme after May 2016.

### **Am I eligible?**

These households and properties are not eligible:

- A household which occupies a new or converted residential flat building approved since 8 May 1996 (former South Sydney Council) or 1 May 2000 (former Sydney City Council)
- A household which occupies a dwelling approved with the condition that no parking permits are to be issued
- A household occupying a secondary dwelling on a lot for which parking permits are already issued
- A household which occupies premises not approved for residential use
- Hotels, backpacker hostels, guesthouses, and serviced apartments

- A household occupying any other non-residential premises
- A household located in the Sydney CBD parking area

### **How many visitor permits will I get?**

This varies according to the number of resident permits your households has, and the neighbourhood you live in.

For eligible households in zone A (Area 19 - Kings Cross/Elizabeth Bay/Potts Point):

- a) 10 permits for those households with **two** Resident Parking Permits
- b) 20 permits for those households with **one** Resident Parking Permit
- c) 30 permits for those households with **no** Resident Parking Permits

For eligible households in zone B (all other areas):

- a) 15 permits for those households with **two** Resident Parking Permits
- b) 30 permits for those households with **one** Resident Parking Permit
- c) 45 permits for those households with **no** Resident Parking Permits

### **When will visitor permits be available in my area?**

From mid-June 2015 all eligible residents will have access to visitor permits.

### **How long are visitor permits valid for?**

They are valid on the date of use only, in the numbered precinct shown on the permit, and only if a single date is clearly scratched off.

### **What vehicles can use visitor permits?**

Cars, commercial vehicles under 3 tonnes and removal trucks can use the permits.. They are not valid for caravans, box trailers or boat trailers.

### **How much will they cost?**

A pack of visitor permits costs \$50. This covers administration, and is not related to the number of permits you obtain.

### **What happens to my existing annual visitor permit?**

Annual visitor permits were only available in Glebe, Pyrmont, Ultimo and Millers Point – no new annual visitor permits will be issued in these areas.

To minimise the impact of the transition on residents who hold annual visitor permits, the policy allows these permits to be renewed for up to two years from when the new policy was adopted (12 May 2016), after which time the household will revert to the daily scheme.

### **Why are the new visitor permits daily rather than annual?**

The new policy changes the format of visitor permits from one-year permits to multiple one-day permits. This is because annual permits are highly vulnerable to misuse, re-sale to commuters, and theft from cars. Police have raised concerns about this form of parking permit, and have successfully prosecuted a fraud case after permits were re-sold to an employee in Millers Point.

In practice, annual visitor parking permits can also be used as a third household parking permit. If they were available across the whole local government area the result would be a sharp increase in parking demand, particularly in locations where there is already a very high ratio of permits to available spaces, such as the Kings Cross area.

### **Business permits**

#### **What form do the business permits take?**

Business permits are available across the City of Sydney, excluding the city centre, from mid-June 2015. They will be annual permits with strict eligibility requirements, with only one permit available per business. The existing business permit schemes with broader eligibility criteria in Glebe, Ultimo and Pyrmont will revert to the new scheme after May 2016.

The new business permits are limited to businesses with specified vehicles that genuinely need them for carrying goods or equipment. They are not intended for people driving to work.

#### **Who is eligible for business permits?**

There are strict eligibility criteria for business parking permits.

- The business must be located in an eligible buildings approved before 8 May 1996 in former South Sydney Council or before 1 May 2000 in former Sydney City Council
- The premises must not have on-site parking or space which could easily accommodate on-site parking
- The business must own a goods-carrying vehicle and be able to show the need for this vehicle as part of its daily operation

#### *Example of a business that is **not** eligible:*

- A real estate agent with a sedan used for driving to client appointments

#### *Example of a business that **might** be eligible:*

- A dry cleaner making deliveries to customers using a goods van

#### **When will business permits be available in my area?**

Business permits will be available progressively across the local government area, and it is expected that all eligible businesses will have access to them by mid-2015. Information will be placed on the parking pages of the City's website when they are available in each area.

### **What happens to my existing business permit?**

Before this new policy was adopted business permits were only available in Glebe, Pyrmont and Ultimo. The new policy may change the eligibility of some businesses for permits.

To minimise the impact of the transition on businesses that currently hold annual permits, the policy allows these permits to be renewed for two years. After 12 May 2016 businesses must meet the new eligibility criteria to get a permit.

### **Why have the eligibility requirements changed?**

The new policy has tighter eligibility restrictions to prevent business permits being used for commuting to places of work on a scale that would seriously affect local parking availability for residents, their visitors and business customers.

### **Zone A & B parking precincts**

#### **Which zone do I live in?**

Currently only the new Kings Cross Area 19 is defined as Zone A – this area is made up of the old parking areas of 19, 23 and 26. The rest of the parking areas are Zone B.

#### **What do the zones mean?**

A parking area that is defined as Zone A is one where there are significantly more resident parking permits on issue than on-street spaces. As a result households in Zone A are entitled to fewer resident and visitor permits.

#### **How many resident permits could I be entitled to in Zone A?**

Eligible households in Zone A can apply for up to one resident permit. A household with an existing second permit or with one permit and an on-site space would be able to renew that permit until they move.

In Zone B all eligible households can apply for up to two resident permits.

#### **How many visitor permits could I be entitled to in Zone A?**

The allocation of visitor permits for eligible households in Zone A is:

- a) 10 permits for those households with **two** Resident Parking Permits
- b) 20 permits for those households with **one** Resident Parking Permit
- c) 30 permits for those households with **no** Resident Parking Permits

In Zone B, the allocation of visitor permits for eligible households is:

- a) 15 permits for those households with **two** Resident Parking Permits
- b) 30 permits for those households with **one** Resident Parking Permit
- c) 45 permits for those households with **no** Resident Parking Permits