

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE REPORT



Meeting Date: 23 September 2025

Agenda Item: 10

Subject:	Residential On-Street Parking
Prepared by:	Sam Dickins, Deputy Town Clerk
Purpose of Report:	To consider a resident's request for support in respect of residential parking in Wareham.
Background:	<p>A resident of North Street contacted the Mayor and the Chair of the Planning and Transport Committee raising a desire for mixed model residential parking alongside the current one-hour parking in Wareham.</p> <p>This matter has been considered at Planning and Transport Committee meetings on 12 August and 09 September 2025 and is being returned to the Committee following the sourcing of more information.</p>
Key Points:	<p>Residential On-street Parking suitability: Subsequent correspondence from Dorset Council has suggested that North Street would likely not fit within Dorset Council's current on-street parking policy.</p> <p>The Committee requested further information on effective hours of operation of on-street parking, the reversibility of on-street parking if adopted and existing case studies where residential on-street parking is in effect.</p> <p>Operating hours: If adopted, the operating hours for on-street residential parking would be between the hours of 09:00 and 18:00. Outside of these times, there are no timed parking restrictions.</p> <p>Reversibility: If the Town Council deemed the adopted residential on-street parking to unsuitable it would need to be reversed following the same process as its adoption. This would include a resident consultation led by the town council before approaching Dorset Council.</p> <p>Case studies: Dorset Council has been approached to share existing case studies for the Town Council to build a view but was unable to provide case study examples to the Town Council.</p> <p>--</p> <p>On-street residential parking in Dorset is managed by Dorset Council and is introduced on a locality-by-locality basis.</p> <p>Residents apply to Dorset Council for an "on-street residents parking permit". These are charged at £50 for 6 months, or £85 for 12 months. Prices are typically reviewed annually.</p> <p>Towns are divided into zones. Permits apply to specified zones only. The designation of these zones would be operationally managed by Dorset Council. Zones can be subject to operating hours.</p> <p>Dorset Council may consider a request for on-street parking to be a "new traffic management measure" and require Wareham Town Council to consult with</p>



	<p>local residents regarding a proposal, as outlined on the Dorset Council Website¹.</p> <p>Some adjoining properties have parking provision at the rear of the properties and primarily are within the vicinity of car parks with available resident permits.</p>
Implications	<p>Amendments to parking measures in North Street is likely to be difficult due to its lacking suitability in the view of Dorset Council's on-street parking policy.</p> <p>Dorset Council has shared reservations regarding such a measure's impact on visitor and shopper parking.</p> <p>Conducting a consultation will require officer time, which may be poorly invested if Dorset Council are unlikely to accept the proposal due to policy misalignment.</p>
Recommendation	<p>Not to support residential on-street parking at the current time.</p>

¹ https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/request-new-traffic-management-measures?p_l_back_url=%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Drequest%2Bnew%2Btraffic%2Bmanagement
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