

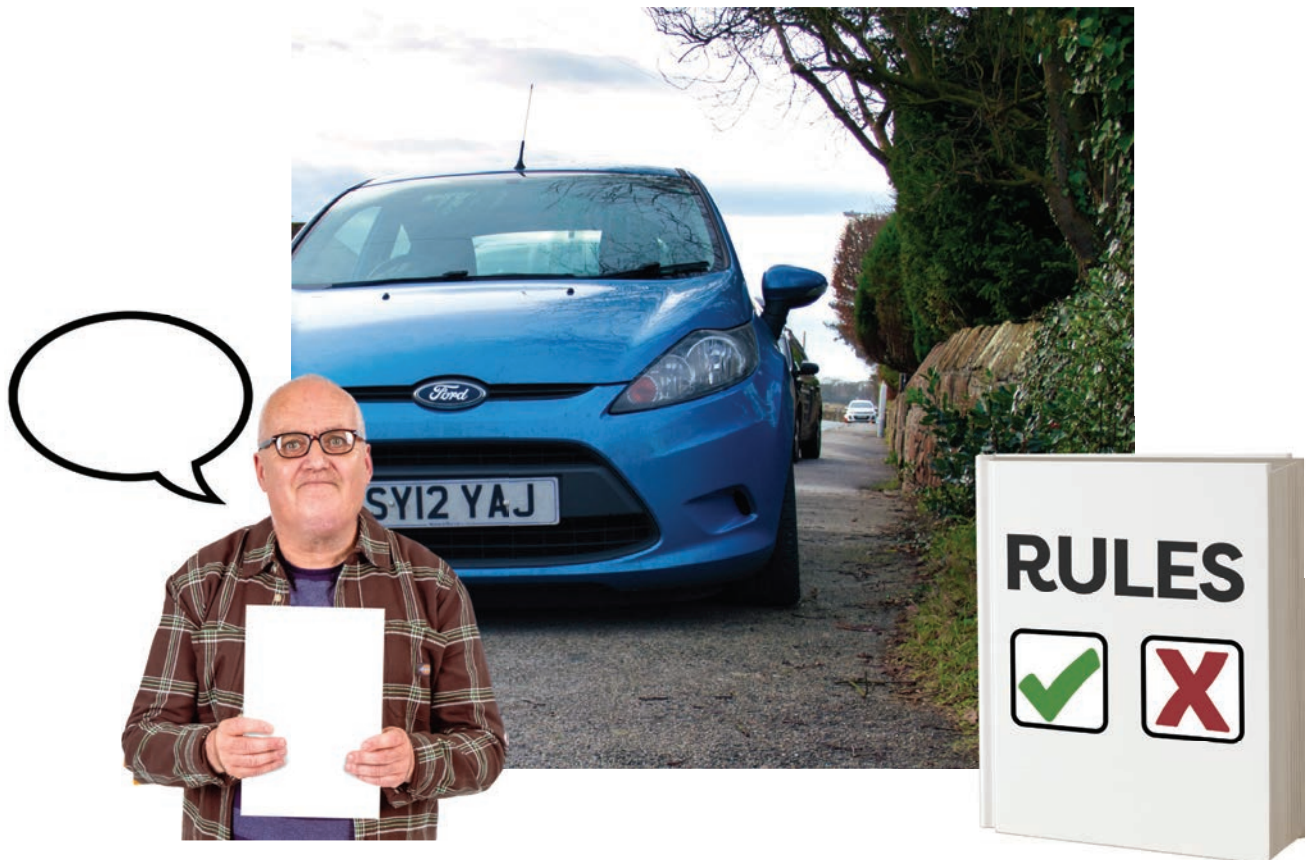


Department
for Transport



Parking on pavements

What people said about changing the rules for pavement parking and what we are going to do



About this easy read



This is the easy read of a longer report by the UK Government.



It tells you about some of the things in the longer report.



This easy read is still quite long. You do not have to read it all at once.

You can take a break, or just read the pages you are interested in.



You can ask someone to help you read it, if you want to.

What is in this booklet



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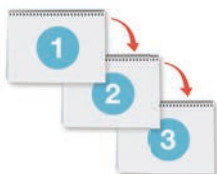
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About parking on pavements



A **pavement** is next to a road. It is for people to walk on.



The Government wants roads and pavements to be safe for everyone to use.



But sometimes people park things like cars or vans on pavements. We call this **pavement parking**.



When a van, car or lorry pavement parks it can **block** the pavement.

Block means it stops people from being able to walk on the path.



It can also block other cars using the road.



If it blocks the pavement, people might have to walk on the road to get past. This is really dangerous.



It can be a big problem for people with wheelchairs or push chairs.



Or for people who are blind or find it hard to see.



It can also crack and damage pavements. This can make them unsafe.

Rules about pavement parking



At the moment, the rules about pavement parking are confusing. And they are hard to change.



Local councils can only stop people from pavement parking for 3 main reasons.



Reason 1

If someone has parked on **yellow lines**, or on the pavement next to yellow lines.



Yellow lines on a road mean you cannot park there. Or you can only park there at some times.



Reason 2

If someone has parked a really big van or lorry on the pavement.



Reason 3

If there is a **Traffic Regulation Order** in that area.



A **Traffic Regulation Order** is when the Government says a council can do these things:



- Stop people from parking in an area.



- Close roads for events or roadworks.



- Stop lorries from using a road.



Getting a new Traffic Regulation Order takes a long time and costs a lot of money.



Councils have to ask local people what they think first.

Our survey



In 2020, the Government asked people some questions about how to stop pavement parking.

We asked:



- Members of the public.
This means people of all ages and backgrounds across the country.



- Councils.



- Businesses and other organisations.



We had 3 ideas about how to make things better.



Idea 1: Make the rules about Traffic Regulation Orders better.



Idea 2: Let councils stop pavement parking in their local area.



Idea 3: Ban pavement parking everywhere in the UK.

Ban means stopping people from doing something.



We asked people what they thought about these ideas.



Thousands of people told us that pavement parking is a problem.



The things people told us helped us decide what to do.

Things people told us



15 thousand people, councils and businesses answered our questions.



8 in 10 people said that pavement parking is a problem in their area.



9 in 10 councils said it is a problem.



4 in 10 people said they would go out more often if the pavements were clear.



People also gave us lots of ideas and things to think about.

What we decided to do



We looked carefully at the things people said:



7 in 10 people said they liked idea 3 best:

Ban pavement parking everywhere in the UK.



6 in 10 councils said they liked idea 2 best:

Let councils stop pavement parking in their local area.



6 in 10 businesses and other organisations said they liked idea 3 best:

Ban pavement parking everywhere in the UK.



Idea 3 would be hard to do.
It would be hard to ban pavement parking everywhere in the UK.

This is because:



- Sometimes disabled people need to park on the pavement.



- Parking in the road to make a delivery can block the whole road.



- We would need to make very big changes to the **law**, and this takes a long time.

Laws are very strict rules about how our country is run.



- In some small towns and in the countryside it may cause more problems. This is because the roads are not very wide.



We have decided to do idea 2:
Let councils stop pavement parking
in their local area.



This is because:

- Local councils know their areas well.



- Local people can be involved in making decisions.



- Councils already make decisions about other things that affect pavement parking.



Things like parking spaces for disabled people. And plans for new houses and roads.

Other things people told us

Pavement parking should be allowed sometimes. This might be for:



- Police cars and ambulances.



- People with a Blue Badge.



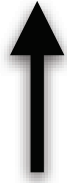
- Motorbikes.



- Vans delivering money to banks and cash machines.



People park on pavements because there is nowhere else to park.



More parking spaces could help to solve this problem.



Councils should make roads wider. This would mean there is space to park in the road.



Councils should allow parking on the pavement. But only if there is enough space for people to get past safely.



The Government should tell people why they should not park on the pavement. And what the rules about pavement parking are.



People should be able to park on the pavement to make deliveries.



Lots of people said 10 to 20 minutes is enough time to make a delivery.



Some businesses told us they need longer than 20 minutes.



Councils should think about other things that will help with pavement parking.



Things like:

- Walking and cycling paths.



- **Public transport.** Public transport means things buses, taxis and trains.



- Supporting people to drive less.



- Electric car charging. An electric car has a big battery in it that makes it go.

You need to plug the car into a chargepoint to charge the battery up.

How the changes will affect people



In our survey, we asked about how different groups of people will be affected by the change.

This might be:



- Older people.



- Disabled people.



- Pregnant women.



- People with babies and small children.



People told us that these groups of people would either:

- Not be affected

or



- The changes will make things better.

Next steps



We want to make a new law that lets councils ban pavement parking in their areas.



But it can take a long time to make a new law.



Until we make the new law, we will make a new rule.



This rule will let councils do more things to stop pavement parking in their areas.



Things like giving people a **fine** for parking on the pavement. A **fine** is an amount of money you have to pay.



Councils will still be able to use Traffic Regulation Orders too.



We will write some **guidance** to support the councils.

Guidance is like rules that councils should follow.



It will help them make decisions about pavement parking that work best for their area.



We will also do more **research** about pavement parking.

Research means looking at something to find out more about it.



We will:

- Send out surveys to find out more about what people think and feel about pavement parking

and



- Go into towns and cities and look at where people are parking on pavements.



We will use what we find out to help us make the new law.