

PARKING POLICY AND STRATEGY

Thurrock Council
February 2021

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

Introduction	...3
Why develop a parking strategy?	...5
Purpose of this parking strategy	...6

2. CURRENT SITUATION

Existing parking pressures in the Borough	...7
Car ownership in Thurrock	...7
Existing public transport provision	...9
Cycle parking provision	...9
Parking capacity	...10
Parking enforcement	...12
Current parking controls	...12

3. KEY LEGISLATION, POLICY REVIEW AND STRATEGIC PARKING OBJECTIVES

National policy	...13
Regional policy	...16
Local policy	...17

4. PROPOSED PARKING POLICY

Strategic parking objectives	... 19
Controlled parking zones, parking permit areas	... 20
Parking permits	... 21
Pay-and-display / Pay-by-mobile and other new technology	...22
Parking charges and tariff structure	...23
Waiting restrictions	...23
Loading restrictions	...24
Stopping restrictions (clearways)	... 24
School parking	... 25
Parking for new developments	... 25
Blue badge parking	...26
Cycle parking	...28
Provision for powered two-wheeler parking	...29
Emission based vehicles and electric vehicles	...30
Footway and verge parking	...34
Commercial vehicles	... 36
Coach parking	... 38
Car clubs	...39
Public consultation for new parking controls	...40
Performance monitoring and annual reporting	...40

5. MANAGING FUTURE DEMAND	
Future controlled zones	... 41
6. SUMMARY	
Summary	... 43
APPENDICES	
A. Parking Strategy Action Plan	... 46

1. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

We are pleased to introduce this new Parking Policy and Strategy for Thurrock. It represents a significant step in creating a safe and inclusive environment for Thurrock residents and businesses.

The Parking Policy and Strategy aims to create a high-level framework against which strategic, tactical and operational decisions on parking arrangements can be taken across Thurrock. It is intended that this will become an invaluable tool for Council officers and members to use when discussing schemes internally or with members of the public.

This document has been prepared to support the delivery of the emerging Local Plan and Transport Strategy by helping tackle congestion, deliver accessibility, improving air quality, and making Thurrock's roads safer to support growth and regeneration in the Borough.

The Parking Policy and Strategy document should be read in conjunction with the separate **Parking Design and Development Standards and Parking Enforcement Strategy**.

- **The Parking Policy and Strategy** document sets out a review of existing national legislation and policies; consideration of proposals for an update of local parking policies, the current parking situation, managing future demand, next steps and (in Appendix A) a proposed parking strategy action plan;
- **The Parking Design and Development Standards** sets out the parking design standards and the parking development standards that are applicable throughout the Borough; and
- **The Parking Enforcement Strategy** sets out the strategies for enforcing parking policies within the Borough.





WHY DEVELOP A PARKING STRATEGY?

According to the 2011 census, Thurrock has a population of 157,705 residents, with 87% living in urban areas and 13% in rural locations. The Unitary Authority area covers 64 square miles and is bounded by Havering to the west, Brentwood and Basildon to the north, Castle Point to the east, and the River Thames to the south.

Thurrock is one of the largest regeneration areas in the UK with major changes planned to take place over the next decade. Significant growth is planned to take place in the following focus areas:-

- **Purfleet-on-Thames** - home of High House Production Park and has received planning consent for revisioning of the town centre with investment in enhanced retail and leisure developments, TV studios, significantly enhanced transport investment with a new railway station and new residential accommodation of up to 3000 dwellings;
- **Lakeside and West Thurrock** - already a major regional retail destination, with significant investment in new leisure facilities to increase visitor numbers to the area;
- **Grays** - the administrative hub of Thurrock will build upon current projects to improve economic growth and enhance the public realm;
- **Tilbury** - a new vision will build on the strengths of the close community and nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIP) for expansion of the port and power generation;
- **London Gateway** - the largest inward investment project in the UK saw DP World's high-tech deep-sea container port open in 2013 and become home to a high-tech logistics business park, creating thousands of new jobs;
- **Thames Enterprise Park** - Up to 1.4m cubic square metres of employment space to boost investment in the logistics industry within Thurrock in the far east of the Borough along the Thames Estuary; and

These major projects, amongst many others throughout the Borough, require parking policies, strategies and standards that support and manage the increased traffic and demand for parking that will arise from this planned growth.

A further strategic consideration is the location in Thurrock of the nationally important Dartford Crossing linking the M25 to the north and south of the Thames. This road carries a very high volume and proportion of freight traffic, much of which accesses the strategic ports in Thurrock, with a consequent higher than usual demand for lorry parking in the area.

Additionally, consideration needs to be given to the potential impact of the Government's proposed Lower Thames Crossing which, if built, would link the A2 in Kent to the A13 and M25 in Thurrock.



PURPOSE OF THIS PARKING STRATEGY

The purpose of this Parking Strategy is to:

1. Assist planning officers in determining appropriate standards for new developments;
2. Advise members of the public in a readily comprehensible manner;
3. Assist intending developers in preparing plans for the development of land;
4. Expedite the determination of planning applications by ensuring that applications submitted include an appropriate level and location of car parking provision that also complements good place-making including public realm; and
5. Ensure new developments incorporate seamlessly emerging vehicle technologies, such as electric vehicle charging facilities and car clubs.

The lack of a formally adopted Parking Strategy can lead to confusion and inconsistency in the application of standards relating to planning applications, parking controls and enforcement. It is, therefore, important to ensure that a Parking Strategy is up to date and relevant in terms of overall National and Council policy and objectives.

This document sets out an initial draft of a Parking Strategy for Thurrock for consultation and subsequent and eventual formal adoption by the Council. This strategy can then be included as part of the relevant section of the emerging Local Plan document, either in its entirety or by extracting relevant sections as appropriate.

Throughout this plan some text is highlighted as follows:

Text in hollow framed boxes contains key information that may be useful when planning or reviewing parking controls.

Text in shaded boxes contain Thurrock Council's proposed/ adopted Local Parking Policies.

These may be:

Thurrock's Transport Strategy (TTS Ref. No.)
Thurrock's Traffic Management Strategy (TTM Ref. No.)

or

TPP00 (Local Parking Policy Ref. No.)

The policies in these boxes found throughout this Strategy document are collated in **Appendix A**.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

This section presents the current situation with regards to parking within Thurrock, discussing the local pressures and demand areas and current parking controls.

EXISTING PARKING PRESSURES IN THE BOROUGH

To help manage parking control reviews effectively a number of key parking attractors and generators have been identified throughout the Borough. These include the following:

- Lakeside Shopping Centre, High Streets and Superstores;
- Arena Essex;
- Railway stations and ports;
- Educational establishments;
- Major developments identified in the emerging Local Plan;
- Places of work, such as the council offices, the port, logistics warehouses where a large number of employees drive;
- Parks and leisure facilities, such as Grays Beach; and
- Hospitals and health facilities, such as Orsett Hospital.

CAR OWNERSHIP IN THURROCK

Based on Government census data, car ownership in Thurrock has steadily increased from 2001 to 2011, as detailed in **Table 1**. In particular, the number of households with two cars / vans has increased. This increase is in line with national trends identified in research undertaken by the Department for Transport (DfT) in 2016, in which the average growth in vehicles has been 680,000 per year since 2012. The East of England had the second highest number of vehicles in the United Kingdom and the third highest number of vehicles per 1,000 people.

Table 1: Historical Car Ownership in Thurrock (Extracted from UK Census Data)

Census Year	2001	2011	Difference
No cars / vans in household	12,472	12,527	+55 (+0.44%)
1 car / van in household	26,467	27,384	+917 (+3.46%)
2 cars / vans in household	15,610	17,007	+1,397 (+8.95%)
3 cars / vans in household	3,040	3,973	+933 (+30.69%)
4 cars / vans in household	896	1,462	+566 (+63.17%)
Total	58,482	62,353	+3,868 (+6.61%)

Source: Nomis Census Data

The 2011 census data was analysed further at ward level to determine differences in the levels of car ownership in Thurrock, as shown in **Table 2**. Grays Riverside; West Thurrock and South Stifford; and Ockendon have the highest ownership of cars / vans, whilst Corringham and Fobbing; and Tilbury St Chads have the lowest levels at almost half the number of the aforementioned wards.

Future development in Thurrock is expected to exacerbate the pressure on parking in certain areas, in particular Purfleet-on-Thames; Lakeside and West Thurrock and Grays.



Table 2: 2011 Car Ownership Figures for Thurrock

Wards	Cars / Vans					
	Owned	No car %	1 car %	2 cars %	3 cars %	4 cars %
Aveley and Uplands	3,674	20%	44%	27%	6%	2%
Belhus	3,866	26%	44%	23%	5%	2%
Chadwell St Mary	3,935	23%	43%	25%	6%	2%
Chafford and North Stifford	2,841	7%	44%	38%	8%	3%
Corringham and Fobbing	2,240	13%	38%	34%	10%	5%
East Tilbury	2,447	13%	43%	32%	9%	3%
Grays Riverside	4,914	29%	50%	18%	3%	1%
Grays Thurrock	3,489	25%	43%	24%	6%	2%
Little Thurrock Blackshots	2,319	17%	39%	33%	8%	4%
Little Thurrock Rectory	2,455	17%	45%	30%	7%	2%
Ockendon	4,043	24%	44%	25%	5%	2%
Orsett	2,370	7%	32%	42%	14%	5%
South Chafford	2,680	10%	54%	30%	4%	1%
Stanford East and Corringham Town	3,554	22%	43%	26%	7%	2%
Stanford-le-Hope West	2,622	19%	44%	27%	8%	3%
Stifford Clays	2,526	22%	38%	29%	8%	3%
The Homesteads	3,222	8%	40%	38%	10%	4%
Tilbury Riverside and Thurrock Park	2,652	34%	43%	19%	4%	1%
Tilbury St Chads	2,269	29%	44%	22%	5%	1%
West Thurrock and South Stifford	4,235	22%	52%	22%	4%	1%

Source: Nomis Census Data



EXISTING PUBLIC TRANSPORT PROVISION

When setting parking controls, the availability of public transport as an alternative to private vehicle usage and the level of parking around transport interchanges needs to be assessed. Thurrock is served by C2C rail services between Southend Central and London Fenchurch Street, with services stopping at the following stations in Thurrock:

- Purfleet-on-Thames Station;
- Ockendon Station;
- Chafford Hundred Station;
- Grays Station;
- Tilbury Town Station;
- East Tilbury Station; and
- Stanford-le-Hope Station.

Further to this, there are many bus routes serving Thurrock, terminating at either Grays bus station or Lakeside bus station. Routes are concentrated in the south and west of the Borough, with only one to two services per hour. There is also a ferry service from Tilbury to Gravesend.



CYCLE PARKING PROVISION

There is no readily up-to-date record of on-street cycle parking locations within Thurrock. However, Sheffield style parking stands are used as standard at various locations in the Borough, in particular near visitor attractors such as shops, offices, stations etc. Similarly, new developments are required to provide cycle parking spaces, with larger sites being required to provide secure, covered parking spaces.

PARKING CAPACITY

Table 3 details the number of both on-street and off-street parking spaces in Thurrock, whilst **Table 4** lists the car parks in Grays and **Table 5** list those outside Grays.

Table 3: Total On-Street and Off-Street Spaces (2021)

Location	Number of spaces
Marked bays for off-street parking	1,280
Marked bays for on-street parking	1,250
Off-street parking spaces not marked out as individual bays - approximate	78
On-street parking spaces not marked out as individual bays - approximate	195
Total	2,803

Source: Thurrock Council

Table 4: Car Parks in Grays (2021)

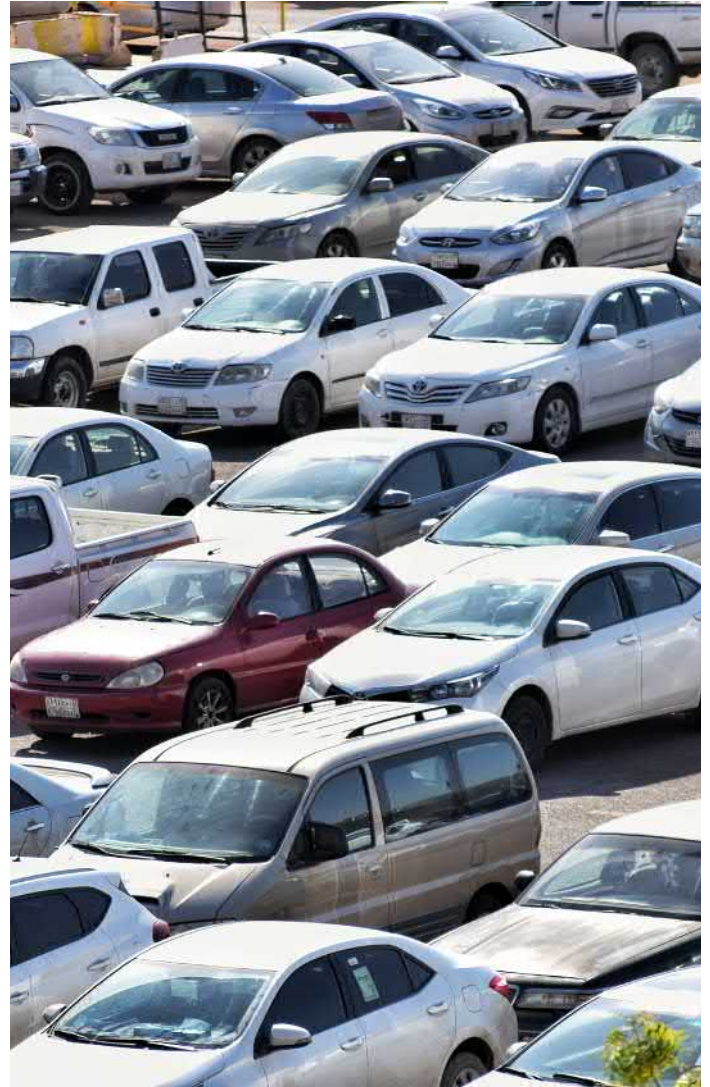
Location	Number of spaces
Darnley Road (off-street short stay)	30
Argent Street (off-street long stay)	42
Cromwell Road (off-street long stay)	60
Crown Road (off-street long stay)	96
Station House, opposite rail station main entrance (off-street long stay)	10
Grays Beach, Thames Road (off-street long stay)	182
Multi-storey car park	700
Morrisons supermarket	540
Grays Station	168
Total	1,828

Source: Thurrock Council

Table 5: Car Parks Outside Grays (2021)

Car park location	Spaces	Charges
Gordon Road (Grover Walk), Corringham	112	Free
Gordon Road (Police station), Corringham	53	Free
Giffords Cross, Corringham	78	Free
Defore Parade, Chadwell St Mary	56	Free
Lodge Lane, Grays (Socketts Heath)	56	Free
Canterbury Parade, South Ockendon	100	Pay
Total	455	

Source: Thurrock Council



Three of the Council car parks currently have electric vehicle charging bays:

- Argent Street, Grays;
- Crown Road, Grays; and
- Canterbury Parade, South Ockendon.

Additionally, there are electric vehicle charging points at several large shops / shopping centres and car dealers.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

The **Parking Enforcement Strategy** is a supplementary document to this policy and should be viewed for further information on our enforcement policies. The Council's separate Annual Parking Reports provide information on parking management, operations, income and enforcement in Thurrock.

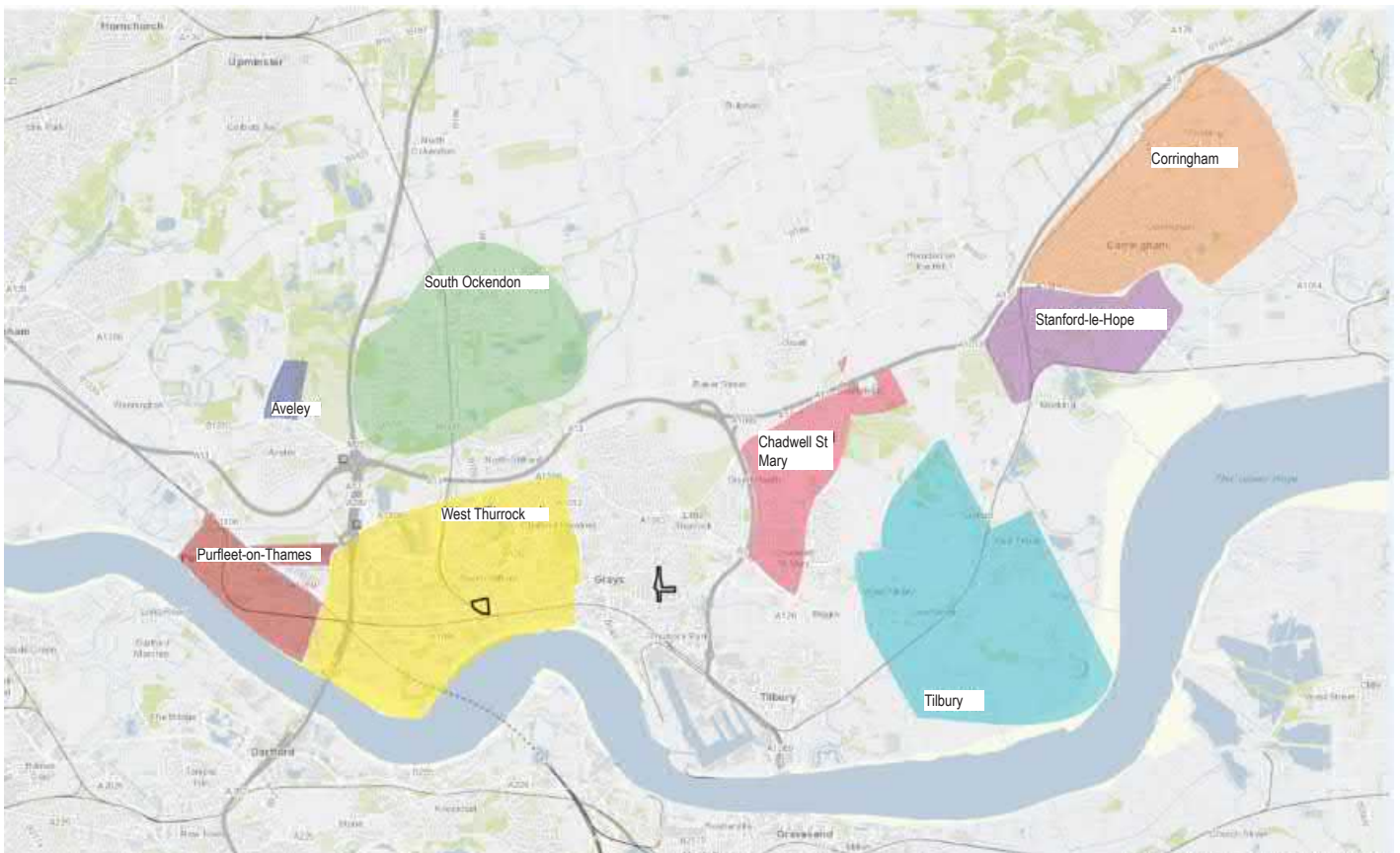
CURRENT PARKING CONTROLS

The number and extents of Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) and Permitted Parking Areas (PPAs) in Thurrock are subject to ongoing review, depending upon demand, consultation and priorities. Current CPZs and PPAs include:

- Grays Town Centre CPZ and PPA – split into 8 sub-zones;
- Stanford-le-Hope PPA – split into 3 sub-zones;
- Tilbury CPZ and PPA;
- Purfleet-on-Thames PPA; and
- South Ockendon PPA.

Other restrictions have been put in place to improve the environment of an area by controlling the size of vehicles that can park in certain areas. These areas are illustrated in the **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1: 7.5T Parking Ban Areas Across the Borough



Source: Thurrock Council



3. KEY LEGISLATION, POLICY REVIEW AND STRATEGIC PARKING OBJECTIVES

This section of the strategy identifies parking legislation policies and standards at a regional and local level. The policy review identifies key focus areas to ensure the Parking Strategy aligns with regional and local transport aims and objectives.

NATIONAL POLICY

The proposed parking strategy is intended to fully comply with National Policies set out below.

Key National Legislation

There are a number of items of UK legislation that allow local authorities to introduce parking management controls and undertake enforcement, as listed below:

- **The Highways Act 1980** deals with the management and operation of the road network in England and Wales. It consolidated, with amendments, several earlier pieces of legislation. An important aspect of this legislation is that it defines the rights the public as to their use of Public Highways. Definitions include:

- Carriageway means a way constituting or comprised in a highway, being a way (other than a cycle track) over which the public have a right of way for the passage of vehicles; and
- Footway means a way comprised in a highway which also comprises a carriageway, being a way over which the public have a right of way on foot only.

The rights of the public as to their use of a Public Highway are commonly misunderstood.

These legal definitions mean that the public have no "right" to park a vehicle anywhere on the highway. The only rights conferred are to enable the public to have free and unobstructed access to and passage along the highway.

- **The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984** is legislation that allows local authorities to manage parking demand within their area. The legislation affords authorities powers to restrict traffic and parking on adopted highway in the interest of safety.
- **Road Traffic Act 1991 (RTA91) - Decriminalised Parking Enforcement** – Prior to September 1993, the enforcement of prohibited parking was carried out by police traffic wardens. Permitted parking was enforced under criminal legislation and non-payment pursued through Magistrates Courts. As a result of legislation in the RTA91, Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) was introduced in Thurrock in 2005. Under the RTA91, parking contraventions are dealt with as a civil offence and notice of a contravention is issued in the form of a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) to the motorist.

- **The Traffic Management Act (TMA) 2004** is the key piece of legislation for parking management. The TMA requires that arrangements should be based on the principles of fairness, consistency, and transparency. The associated guidance requires authorities to design arrangements regarding:
 - Managing the expeditious movement of traffic;
 - Improving the local environment;
 - Improving road safety;
 - Improving the quality & accessibility of public transport;
 - Meeting the needs of disabled people;
 - Managing & reconciling the competing demands for kerb space; and
 - Further information on the **Traffic Management Act 2004** can be found in the **Enforcement Strategy**.
- **Traffic Signs Regulations and General Direction 2016** details the regulations of all road signs and markings that should be implemented to allow the enforcement of any parking controls they wish to introduce. Failure to adhere to the regulations could result in PCNs being invalid.
- **The Civil Enforcement of Parking of Contraventions (England) General Regulations 2007** is legislation that permits authorities to issue PCNs by means other than on a vehicle directly and gives authorities the power to immobilise vehicles should they wish to adopt this practice. Most importantly it sets out the requirements for allowing PCNs to be appealed, requirement for evidence to be produced and details all aspects of independent adjudication.



National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) and NPPF Update (February 2019)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published by the UK Central Government in March 2012 with an overarching theme of sustainable development. It details the planning policies for England and how they are expected to be applied. This was subsequently updated in June 2019. The Planning Practice Guidance which supports the NPPF was also updated in October 2019.

Thurrock Council will take account of the updated NPPF guidance regarding parking standards highlighted below:

In setting local parking standards for residential and non-residential development, the Council, as local planning authority, will take into account:

- The accessibility of the development;
- The type, mix and use of development;
- The availability of and opportunities for public transport;
- Local car ownership levels; and
- An overall need to ensure an adequate provision of spaces for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles.

Further to this the NPPF outlines the following aspirations which Thurrock Council follows:

- Maximum parking standards for residential and non-residential development should only be set where there is a clear and compelling justification that they are necessary for managing the local road network;
- In town centres, the Council will seek to improve the quality of parking so that it is convenient, safe and secure, alongside measures to promote accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists;
- The Council will set appropriate parking charges that do not undermine the vitality of town centres;
- Parking enforcement will be proportionate; and
- The Council, as the local planning authority, will identify and protect where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice.

Traffic Management Act 2004 Parking Policy and Enforcement

The Department for Transport's "Traffic Management Act – Operational Guidance to Local Authorities: Parking Policy and Enforcement" (updated March 2015 but withdrawn from publication in 2018) provides guidance which local authorities should apply to their own parking policies. Based upon the requirements of this document, when setting and appraising parking policy the Council should take account of:

- Existing and projected levels of parking demand;
- Availability and pricing of on and off-street parking;
- Justification for and accuracy of traffic signs and road markings that restrict or permit parking; and
- Accuracy and quality of traffic signs and road markings that restrict or permit parking.

Additionally, the Council sets and appraises the following:

- Level of compliance with parking controls that they want to achieve;
- Level of enforcement necessary to get such compliance;
- Penalty charge bands; and
- Resourcing and training of parking staff.

The document provides design guidance for parking policies, and the Council pays particular regard to:

- Managing the traffic network to ensure expeditious movement of traffic, (including pedestrians and cyclists), as required under the TMA Network Management Duty;
- Improving road safety;
- Improving the local environment;
- Improving the quality and accessibility of public transport;
- Meeting the needs of disabled people, some of whom will be unable to use public transport systems and depend entirely on the use of a car;
- Managing and reconciling the competing demands for kerb space;
- The impact on the local economy and the viability of local shops and high streets;
- The justification for, and accuracy of, existing traffic orders;
- The adequacy, accuracy and quality of traffic signing and road markings which restrict or permit parking within or outside a Controlled Parking Zone;
- The levels of penalty charges;
- The need to resource the operation effectively and ensure that all parking staff are appropriately trained; and
- Impact on traffic flow, i.e. traffic or congestion outcomes.

REGIONAL POLICY

Thurrock is a Unitary Authority within the County of Essex, located immediately to the east of London.

The East of England Plan (Revoked in January 2013)

The East of England Plan – The Revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England was adopted in May 2008 and was inclusive of the Unitary Authority of Thurrock. This Strategy was revoked in January 2013 as part of the Government's strategy to devolve power to elected Local Authorities and to local communities. However, a number of the Regional Policies contained therein provide a useful backdrop and remain relevant to the introduction of local policy.

The standards in PPG13 should be treated as maximums, but local authorities may adopt more rigorous standards to reinforce the effects of other measures particularly in regional transport nodes and key centres for development and change.



The following points are taken into account:

- Parking standards should take account of three key parameters: location, land use and accessibility;
- More rigorous standards should be set in those parts of the region where, and as, the levels of public transport accessibility are good or improving; and
- Should take into account the economic buoyancy of the area and pressures on historic centres.

Essex Parking Standards: Design and Good Practice (September 2009)

Thurrock Council is a Unitary Authority within the County of Essex and was part of the working group that helped to develop the Essex Parking Standards: Design and Good Practice document. This document is currently under review .

Thurrock has introduced parking standards that are in line with Essex's guidance:

- In urban areas, reduced vehicle parking provision may be considered, especially for residential development;
- Parking provision can be shared with other uses, in particular in urban areas, providing this works without conflict;
- Off-street coach parking should be provided when developments are likely to generate coach traffic;
- Cycle parking standards should be applied by Local Authorities to all applications for new or extended development, expressed as minimum standards to reflect the sustainable nature of this mode of travel;
- Parking standards for powered two-wheelers (P2Ws) are detailed as the minimum provision required; and
- Disabled parking will be required for disabled users' exclusive access at all sites.

LOCAL POLICY

The proposed parking strategy and standards comply with the aspirations and policies identified in Thurrock policy documents, as detailed further below.

Thurrock Transport Strategy (2013-26)

The Thurrock Transport Strategy sets out the aims and objectives for delivering transport improvements. Congestion and air quality are noted as key problems across the Borough and the following points in relation to parking are noted:

- Provide additional car parking at railway stations and transport interchanges to encourage a shift to public transport in addition to cycle hire and storage, and priority parking spaces for car sharers and short-term drop off;
- Reallocate car parking from long stay to short stay to promote sustainable travel for peak travel, such as journeys to work and school;
- Reduce parking in new developments where accessibility is high;
- Provide for 24-hour lorry parking; and
- School Travel Plans should include measures to encourage a mode shift with the enforcement of parking restrictions around schools.

TTS15 - Thurrock's Transport Strategy Policy

- Short and medium stay car parking provision will be favoured in urban areas, and will be limited to the current number of car parking spaces;
- Additional parking provision may be appropriate at rail stations and other public transport interchanges to facilitate travel by sustainable modes; and
- Parking will be increased at rail stations where Station Travel Plans are implemented.

Thurrock Traffic Management Plan 2012-2016

Thurrock's Traffic Management Plan aims to produce an effective network management regime which reduces the number of congestion related incidents and disruption related to parking.

TMP6 - Thurrock's Traffic Management Plan Policy: Parking Enforcement

- The Council will work to minimise disruptions / delays resulting from parking, loading and waiting;
- The Council will prioritise enforcement on traffic sensitive streets, bus and cycle lanes, known areas of congestion, where persistent contraventions exist; and
- Increased parking at rail stations will be supported by stronger parking controls to mitigate potential traffic increases around stations.

Thurrock Local Plan

The Council are currently progressing the preparation of a new Local Plan.

It is critical that there is alignment with this and other transport documents with the emerging Local Plan and new transport strategy to support overarching aims of tackling congestion, delivering accessibility, improvements to air quality, and making Thurrock's roads safer and supporting sustainable growth and regeneration in the Borough. While these documents remain in development, there will be a need to ensure parking policies support and align with these documents, and there may be a need to review this strategy following their publication.

The Core Strategy and Policies for Management of Development, updated in 2015, is currently the main Local Plan document and includes policy PMD8 Parking Standards. The Core Strategy will remain our adopted statutory planning document for the borough until the new Local Plan is adopted.



4. PROPOSED PARKING POLICY



This section considers the key parking policy measures Thurrock Council should adopt in order to comply with the wider policies and objectives discussed previously. The policies detailed below directly input to the Parking Policy and Strategy document.

STRATEGIC PARKING OBJECTIVES

Following a review of national and local policy and guidance (as set out in Section 3) the Council's strategic parking objectives are summarised as follows:

- On and off-street parking should be provided and managed to accommodate the needs of residents and local businesses, encourage modal shift and support future growth in the Borough;
- Parking management tools and policies should maintain and improve road safety for pedestrians, cyclists and motor users;
- Parking management tools and policies should reduce congestion and encourage smooth traffic flow, improving the local environment and air quality;
- Enforcement policies should be fair, robust, and proportionate but should also balance demand and supply across the Borough;
- Parking charges should be fair and proportionate but should also balance demand and supply across the Borough;
- Additional parking pressures generated by new development should be identified at the planning stage. Suitable mitigation agreed should also balance demand and supply across the Borough;
- Local residents should be fully involved in, and consulted on, proposed changes to parking arrangements but minority opposition should not prevent proposals being introduced for wider benefit; and
- Innovative ideas and trial proposals will be welcomed where appropriate.



The proposed Thurrock Parking Policies (TPP) recommended for adoption by the Council are set out below and in Appendix A.

CONTROLLED PARKING ZONES, PARKING PERMIT AREAS

Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) and Permitted Parking Areas (PPAs) are generally put in place where there is heavy pressure on parking space covering a relatively large area, such as in residential areas near railway stations, town centres, hospitals, colleges and sports and leisure centres. Their main use is to manage over-saturation of on-street parking spaces by controlling or removing intrusive, potentially obstructive and dangerous parking. Permitted parking within these CPZs and PPAs generally gives priority to residents and provides short-term parking for shoppers and visitors. In commercial areas permit eligibility may be given to businesses who demonstrate an essential business need.

Regular and visible enforcement is required in these areas to ensure compliance and effectiveness of the parking controls.

TPP01: Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) and Permitted Parking Area (PPAs)

Developers will be required to contribute to the cost of surveys, design, consultation and implementation of new or extended CPZs or PPAs proposed or required as mitigation to an anticipated parking demand issue generated by a new development.

They will also be required to produce a parking management plan as part of any new development proposals.

Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs)

A Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) is an area in which all kerb-side space is controlled either by waiting and / or loading restrictions indicated by signs at each entrance to the zone and by yellow lines at the edge of the carriageway and kerb markings. Within this zone there may also be permitted parking bays, generally indicated by signs adjacent to each bay and white carriageway markings designating the parking bay areas.

Permitted parking bays may be designated for use by:

- Permit holders only;
- Pay and display / pay by phone only;
- Shared use (for use by both permit holders and pay and display); or
- Free parking.

Note: *The provision of a parking permit does not guarantee availability of a parking space.*

Permit Parking Areas (PPAs)

A Permit Parking Area (PPA) generally consists of residential streets that are reserved for permit holder parking only. These PPAs are often cul-de-sacs or a small, localised group of streets. These areas are generally indicated by a sign at the entrance(s) to the street showing that parking is for permit holders, usually residents, only. PPAs generally do not have signs or white parking bay markings within them, but sometimes there may be small signs to remind motorists of the controls that are in place. Signs to indicate drivers are leaving the PPA may be erected where it is considered confusion may arise. These simple measures are the Council's currently preferred approach to on-street parking controls within Thurrock.

PARKING PERMITS

Based on the Government Census Data, in the 10 years from 2001 to 2011, car ownership in Thurrock increased by almost 7%. In 2011 some 43% of Thurrock households owned a car and 37% owned two or more cars. (See Section 2). The availability and cost of parking permits for on-street parking within CPZs provides a means to encourage a switch from the car to more sustainable forms of transport, with potential benefits in terms of reductions in traffic congestion and environmental air quality improvements.

General parking permits for permitted parking bays may be issued to eligible residents, visitors and essential business users within a CPZ or a PPA, so they can park in them, usually for an unlimited amount of time. Other parking may be permitted for a limited time via a pay-and-display ticket or via pay-by-phone methodology.

A number of factors are taken into account when considering the issue of parking permits as follows:

- The Council's objectives for encouraging a change to more sustainable forms of transport and reduced air pollution;
- The range of permits to offer;
- Who is eligible for the various permits;
- The application process for obtaining a permit; and
- The forfeiture processes.

This will be most relevant in residential and town centre areas where providing parking controls with some forms of permits could help to resolve parking demand issues. A range of parking permits are available to users of on-street and off-street permitted parking places as set out below. The types of permits, the eligibility criteria, and the cost of purchase will be subject to annual review by the Council.

Table 6: Permit Types

Permit	Description
Resident	Upon proof that their main residence is within a CPZ or PPA boundary residents are able to apply for an annual permit for vehicles that they own, up to a maximum of three per household. The first two permits are currently free of charge and the third is at a cost that is reviewed annually. To encourage a reduction in car ownership across Thurrock, in line with sustainability policies, the Council will consider introducing a charge for the first and second permit. In addition households with off-street parking will be restricted to one resident permit only at the cost of the first permit (or third permit if additional charges are not introduced).
Visitor	Residents and businesses within CPZs/ PPAs are also able to purchase Visitors' Permits – up to five strips of permits, each of which allows 20 short stay visits in any one calendar month.
Carer	There is a £10 administration fee, with a maximum of one per household, subject to assessment.
Business	Currently, business owners with premises or working within a CPZ or PPA may be eligible to purchase a six month or 12-month essential business user permit for one vehicle which allows them to park within permit holder and shared use bays within the relevant CPZ or PPA. Subject to review, businesses may be able to purchase additional permits, at higher charges, up to a maximum of three per business. Some businesses may also have a business need to apply for a permit which allows them to park in permitted bays across CPZs/ PPAs, at a higher range of charges.
Temporary Business	These are valid for one month and may be purchased for vehicles owned, managed or used by a business undertaking temporary work on properties within a CPZ or PPA. Permit costs are reviewed annually.
Healthcare Specialist	Healthcare specialists, working for the NHS, who need to park within CPZs or PPAs while carrying out their duties, may be eligible for a NHS parking permit. This allows them to park their vehicle for up to 3 hours in a permitted parking bay across multiple CPZs or PPAs.
Blue Badge	Blue Badges are available for people with a disability or having special needs that affect their mobility. These allow parking in some otherwise restricted areas and provide some dispensation from parking charges. An application may be made for a Blue Badges and this will be issued, subject to an assessment of need.

TPP02: Parking Permits

The Council will make a charge for the provision of parking permits. The range of parking permits offered, the eligibility criteria and the charges will be subject to review, benchmarking and adjustment, as appropriate.

PAY-AND-DISPLAY / PAY-BY-MOBILE AND OTHER NEW TECHNOLOGY

All parking in Thurrock (other than by pre-paid permits) is currently paid for by means of pay-and-display machines. As the name implies, they also require a ticket to be displayed on the windscreen of the vehicle that has been parked, indicating the length of parking time purchased and the time by which it must depart from the bay.

The machines only accept payment by debit card or credit card following problems with theft and vandalism and no longer accept or contain cash. Additionally, the way in which people pay for services is changing as technology is evolving and we are gradually moving towards a cashless society, with most payments being made via cards or cashless mobile phone transactions.

In order to deal with these changes alternative systems have been and are being developed which allow motorists to pay for parking by means other than cash. For example, using their mobile phone to contact a central number, advertised on signage at each parking place. Once a payment has been made, a computer record is generated indicating the vehicle registration, location and length of stay / time of departure paid for. This record is automatically and immediately transmitted to enforcement officers on street.

TPP03: Pay By Mobile and Other New Technology

The Council will investigate the introduction of pay by mobile and other upcoming new technology for paying for parking across the Borough.



PARKING CHARGES AND TARIFF STRUCTURE

Tariffs should be implemented that ensure consistent pricing, alignment with charges in other similar Local Authority areas, and cost-incentivising off-street parking over on-street.

Parking charges, however, are one of a very few "commercial" income streams, subject to commercial type supply and demand pressures, that are generated by Councils.

Whilst on and off-street parking charges will be reviewed annually by the Council, they will be looked at on a more commercial, demand driven review basis, rather than simply as a regular price increase.

A key consideration when setting parking charges is that, in some instances, reducing parking charges may increase parking demand and turnover, benefitting the local economy and, at the same time, increasing, rather than reducing, parking income.

In contrast, higher charges can result in less demand which, with less turnover may, counter-intuitively, generate less income than a lower charge.

The principles for the Councils charging structure are as follows:

- Areas of greatest demand (town centres, stations, and university premises) should be subject to highest pricing;
- Prices should reduce as walking distance to the attractor increases;
- Tariffs for long stay parking should encourage the use of off-street car parks where available; and
- Linked to DVLA vehicle type / vehicle emissions.

TPP04: On-Street and Off-Street Parking Charges

The Council will set charges for on-street parking and for off-street parking in Council car parks. A set structure of parking charges and tariffs for both on-street and off-street environments will be set by the Council and reviewed, benchmarked and adjusted, as appropriate.

WAITING RESTRICTIONS

Waiting restrictions, indicated by yellow lines at the edge of the carriageway and by signs, are generally introduced to prevent obstructive parking at certain times of day, often on main strategic and distributor roads and in specific locations where parking may be dangerous e.g. at road junctions.

Waiting on a yellow line waiting restriction is permitted under some circumstances during the controlled hours as follows:

- For the purpose of loading and unloading, as long as that is a continuous process and unless indicated by loading restrictions (see below);
- For Blue Badge holders for a limited period; and
- For picking up and setting down passengers, where this is a continuous process.

TPP05: Waiting Restrictions

The Council will introduce waiting restrictions in locations and at times where dangerous and or obstructive parking takes place.





STOPPING RESTRICTIONS (CLEARWAYS)

Some roads are designated as Clearways, indicated by signs at the entry and exit and at regular intervals along them. These may or may not be indicated by yellow lines. Vehicles are not permitted to stop on these roads except in an emergency or in specially designated areas.

In London and some other cities, special stopping restrictions apply on "Red Routes", indicated by red line markings. There are no "Red Routes" in Thurrock.

TPP07: Stopping Restrictions (Clearways)

The Council will introduce clearways on higher speed roads where vehicles stopping would be dangerous and / or obstructive to other road users.

LOADING RESTRICTIONS

Loading restrictions indicated by yellow stripe markings on kerbs and by signs, are generally introduced to prevent loading and unloading from causing an obstruction to the passage of vehicles locations at certain times of day. These are often located on main strategic and distributor roads and in specific locations where parking may be dangerous e.g. at road junctions.

It is understood that these restrictions can impact on local businesses who, following implementation, can have difficulty loading and unloading affecting the operation of their business. For this reason, loading restrictions will be carefully considered and consulted before implementation.

TPP06: Loading Restrictions

The Council will introduce loading restrictions in locations and at times where parking for the purposes of loading / unloading is dangerous and or obstructive and where this type of parking takes place.





SCHOOL PARKING

Where a school is located within a wider CPZ or PPA it is considered that these controls will be sufficient to regulate the traffic generated from the school. If additional measures are required, the following will be considered:

- Additional pay and display restrictions / limited waiting on streets in close proximity to schools;
- Extending the operational period of existing parking controls where appropriate;
- Alternatively set hours of control so as not to overlap peak school drop off and pick-up periods, thus avoiding impact on parents / guardians;
- Road closures during school drop off and pick-up periods;
- Implementation of new School Keep Clear Markings to prohibit parking outside school entrances;
- Parents' permits for use during school term time (defined by the published school term dates) and between specific school arrival and dispersal times e.g. 8.30am to 9.30am and 3.00pm to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday; and
- Where appropriate, schools may be asked to revisit and implement changes to their School Travel Plan.

TPP08: School Parking Controls

Measures will be introduced to manage parking and stopping associated with the drop-off and pick-up of children in the vicinity of schools, during term time, at the beginning and end of the school day.

PARKING FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS

To mitigate the impact of traffic growth on congestion, air quality and local parking demand, developers are required to provide information detailing the proposed parking provision. This should meet the requirements of the Council's parking standards, set out in the Council's separate **Parking Design and Development Standards** document.

TPP09: Parking for New Developments

The Council will operate a set structure of car parking standards and requirements for new developments. These include:

- A range of car parking standards that encourage sustainable travel choices and minimise the impact of parking in adjacent areas; and
- Developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for parking management strategies; new parking controls associated with managing the parking demand generated by developments; and the impact of new developments on parking control of access and/ or road safety.

BLUE BADGE PARKING

Off-Street Blue Badge Parking

The number of spaces required for blue badge holders varies between use classes and the standards have been based on the Department for Transport's (DfT's) Traffic Advisory Leaflet 5/95: 'Parking for Disabled People'. See also the separate **Parking Design and Development Standards** document.

Table 7: Car Park Allocations for Blue Badge Car Parking

Car Park Used for	Number of spaces	
	200 bays or fewer	Over 200 bays
Employees and visitors to business premises	(Individual bays for each blue badge holding employee plus) 2 bays or 5% of total capacity, whichever is greater	6 bays plus 2% of total capacity
Shopping, recreation, and leisure	3 bays or 6% of total capacity, whichever is greater	4 bays plus 4% total capacity
Educational establishments	1 bay or 5% of total capacity, whichever is greater	

Note: Blue Badge parking provision to be included in the overall vehicle parking standard provision. In circumstances where the number of vehicle parking bays are less than 10, the Council will consider the proportion of Blue Badge Parking provision on a case by case basis, taking into account the quantity of available Blue Badge Parking in the vicinity.

If it is known that there will be an employee with a blue badge, then their space should be in addition to the required blue badge parking standard required.

It should be noted that a larger proportion of spaces may be required by the Council at facilities where a higher proportion of users/ visitors with blue badges will be expected, for example medical, health and care facilities.

The provision at the above levels or any required by the Council does not guarantee that the requirements of the Equalities Act will be met; this is the responsibility of the developer, building occupier and / or service provider. There are numerous sources of advice available for guidance on blue badge parking and it is advised that these documents are considered at the design / development / planning stage. Documents include:

- Inclusive Mobility, a guide to best practice on / access to pedestrian and transport infrastructure;
- BSI British Standards BS 8300:2009 Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people – Code of practice; and
- Traffic Advisory Leaflet (TAL) 5/95.

TPP10: Blue Badge Parking for New Developments

Developers will be required to demonstrate that their proposals adequately provide for the needs of people with disabilities, in line with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010.

Parking for people with disabilities will be required for their exclusive use at all times. Use of these spaces will usually require a Blue Badge to be displayed.



On-Street "Blue Badge Holder" Parking

Blue Badge holders may park in locations at times not permitted to other motorists, subject to certain conditions set out below.

Note: *Whilst parking is, under some circumstances, permitted on yellow lines, Blue Badge holders should always seek to park in a permitted parking bay first, if one is convenient and available.*

Permitted Blue Badge Holder Parking - Unlimited Time

- A vehicle displaying a valid blue badge can park free, for an unlimited time, in:

- Any Thurrock Council off-street pay and display car park bay, except at Cromwell Road in Grays;
- A free short stay parking bay;
- A pay and display parking bay;
- A permit holder bay - resident, business, visitor permits;
- A shared use parking bay - permit holders and pay and display / pay by phone; and
- A blue badge holder's parking bay that does not have a maximum stay time.

Permitted Blue Badge Holder Parking - Limited Time -

If a valid Blue Badge is clearly displayed with clock showing arrival time a blue badge holder can park:

- On single or double yellow lines for up to 3 hours, when there are no loading restrictions; and
- In a disabled persons' parking bay that has a maximum stay time shown on an adjacent sign.



Blue Badge Holder Parking – Not Permitted – a blue badge does not entitle holders to park in contravention of restrictions:

- On a single or double yellow line when there are loading restrictions;
- In a suspended parking bay;
- In a loading bay;
- In a bus parking bay;
- In a motorcycle bay;
- In a doctor parking bay;
- In a police vehicle bay;
- In an electric vehicle bay;
- When there are school 'keep clear' restrictions in place;
- On a bus stop or taxi rank clearways where a yellow 'no stopping' sign is displayed;
- Within 10m of a junction; and
- On or within 10m of a bend.

Blue badge holder parking bays may be provided in residential areas outside or close to the houses of blue badge holders on request and subject to an assessment. The assessment will be carried out by the blue badge holder's occupational therapist.

TPP11: Blue Badge Parking Bays in Controlled Parking Areas

On-street Blue Badge holder parking bays will be provided in convenient locations e.g. close to shops, stations, doctors' surgeries etc in all town or district centre areas that fall within controlled parking areas.

TPP12: Blue Badge Residential Parking Bays

On-street Blue Badge holder parking bays will be provided in residential areas, subject to application and assessment, when the badge holder:

- Lives in a dwelling that has no off-street parking;
- Where on-street parking problems occur on a regular basis;
- Bays will normally operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, although there will be only limited enforcement outside the working day; and
- Bays are not reserved for an individual and may be used by any vehicle displaying a valid Blue Badge.



CYCLE PARKING

The provision of convenient secure parking and related facilities are fundamental to encouraging a modal shift to cycling, particularly from single occupancy motorised journeys made over shorter distances on a regular basis. It is acknowledged that cycle parking demand varies greatly between use classes and a straight ratio of car to cycle trips cannot be used to define the Cycle Parking Standard. Therefore, current Cycle Parking Standards have been looked at on an individual class basis. The standards represent a basis for helping to provide sufficient cycle parking throughout Thurrock.

In addition to the provision of cycle parking, developers will be required to demonstrate that they have considered additional needs for cyclists, such as locker, changing and shower facilities.

In exceptional circumstances, where it is not possible to provide cycle parking spaces on-site, developers will be expected to make a financial contribution towards public provision of such facilities.

At large development sites, the exact number of cycle parking spaces will depend on the individual characteristics of the site and its surrounding area. Where a travel plan exists, cycle parking provision should be reviewed annually to ensure there are adequate spaces to meet demand. If there proves insufficient allocation, increased parking should be provided as agreed with the Council.

Cycle Parking Provision Standards can be found under the individual Use Classes in the separate **Parking Design and Development Standards** document.

TPP13: Cycle Parking Provision

Cycle Parking Standards will be applied to all applications for new or extended development. They are expressed as minimum standards to reflect the sustainable nature of this mode of travel. It is essential that secure, covered cycle parking with Sheffield or similar parking stands is designed into employee and residential type developments at an early stage, prior to the granting of planning permission to ensure it relates well to the development and provides suitable links / access to nearby cycle routes.

PROVISION FOR POWERED TWO-WHEELER PARKING

The use of powered two-wheeled vehicles (P2W) for short regular journeys can create significant benefits, most notably in the form of reduced congestion and reduced land use for parking. Parking standards for P2Ws are represented as the minimum provision required, which reflects the advantages they have over the car and single occupancy vehicles in particular.

As with cycle parking, these standards represent a basis for helping to provide sufficient P2W parking facilities throughout Thurrock. In addition to the provision of secure parking, developers will be required to demonstrate that they have considered additional needs for P2W users, such as locker and changing facilities.

Government transport statistics show that the ratio between car and P2W ownership is 25:1. However, with regard to the congestion benefits that the P2W provides, a varied ratio parking standard linked to car parking spaces should be applied.

Car spaces	P2W spaces
For the first 0-100 spaces	1 space, plus 1 space per 20 car park spaces
Additional spaces over 100	1 per 30 car park spaces

Example: a development that proposes a car park of 130 spaces should calculate their P2W requirement as follows:

1 P2W space provided regardless of car park size	= 1
1 P2W space per 20 car parking spaces for first 100 spaces	= 5
1 P2W space for the remaining 30 car parking spaces	= 1
Total P2W spaces	= 7

The separate **Parking Design and Development Standards** document discusses some of the key items that make good P2W parking.

TPP14: Powered Two-Wheeler Parking for New Developments

To mitigate the impact of traffic growth on congestion, air quality and local parking demand, the Council will operate a set structure of P2W parking standards for new developments. These include:

- A range of P2W parking standards, with secure, anchored locking points, that encourage sustainable travel choices and minimise the impact of parking in adjacent areas;
- Developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for parking management strategies; new parking controls associated with managing the parking demand generated by developments; and the impact of new developments on parking control of access and/ or road safety; and
- Where a travel plan exists, P2W parking provision should be reviewed annually to ensure there are adequate spaces to fulfilled demand. If there proves insufficient allocation, increased parking should be provided.



EMISSION BASED VEHICLES AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Emission Based Permit Charges

Thurrock currently has 16 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) where high levels of pollution have been recorded and are being monitored.

To mitigate this Thurrock Council should look to implement a permit charging strategy related to vehicle emissions and Electric Vehicles (EVs) as the ownership and use of these vehicles is increasing. Introducing a permit charging structure that is seen to penalise higher emission vehicles will encourage either a modal shift to sustainable travel modes or encourage a shift to lower polluting / electric vehicles, benefitting both congestion and air quality.

Permits would be divided into Groups, based on the vehicle Taxation Classes and CO2 Emissions, with different charges for each Group. **Table 9** sets out the potential permit groups.

Table 9: Possible Structure for Emission Based Permit Charges

Permit Group	Taxation Class	CO2 emission (g/km)
1	A-C	Up to 120
2	D-G	121-165
3	H-K	166-225
4	L-M	Over 225

These permit groups will be available for vehicle types L1 to L7 inclusive, (motorised vehicles less than 4 wheels including motorcycles) and M1 only (vehicles used for the carriage of passengers and comprising not more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat), as outlined by the DVLA vehicle type approval. For clarity, this will not include vehicles defined by the DVLA as 'special purpose vehicles'.

If there is no CO2 output data available, in general due to a vehicle's age, permit group 3 charges shall apply. EV or emission free vehicles could, at least initially, be exempt from permit charges.

TPP15: Emissions Based Parking Permit Charges

As part of its review process, the Council will consider basing parking permit charges on vehicle emissions, with lower charges for lower emission / electric vehicles, so as to encourage a change to less polluting vehicles.

Electric Charging Points in Off-Street Car Parks and New Developments

Chapter 9 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people and suggests a number of means to achieve this.

In particular paragraph 110 (e) of the NPPF states that developments should be 'designed to enable charging of plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles in safe, accessible and convenient locations.'

Further support is provided under paragraph 181 of the NPPF which states that planning policies and decisions should sustain and contribute towards compliance with relevant limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and Clean Air Zones, and the cumulative impacts from individual sites in local areas.

There are currently three Council run car parks with electric vehicle charging bays in Thurrock:

- Argent Street, Grays;
- Crown Road, Grays; and
- Canterbury Parade, South Ockendon.

Additionally, several large retail car parks and some car dealers in Thurrock have electric vehicle charging points. In order to promote a greater role for plug-in vehicles the Council will support development proposals which seek to encourage the use of electric vehicles. To assist understanding on how this could be achieved in new developments the table below sets out how infrastructure could be provided in new development. See separate **Parking Design and Development Standards** document.

Table 10: Recommended Approach Toward Promoting ULEVs Within New Developments

Provision of Parking Bays & Charging Points for ULEV in New Development (including Conversions)

Houses ¹	One charging point per house with garage or driveway
Flats (<50 units) ²	One parking bay marked out for use by electric vehicles only, together with charging infrastructure and cabling.
Flats (>50 units) ²	Further dedicated charging bays totalling 2% of the total provision.
Other Development (<50 Bays) ²	One parking bay marked out for use by electric vehicles only, together with charging infrastructure and cabling.
Other Development (>50 Bays) ²	Further dedicated charging bays totalling 2% of the total provision.
Phasing	Standard provision (as set out above) could be supplemented by the installation of groundwork / passive wiring at the commencement of development in order to enable further installation to match demand.

1. Recommended installation of 16A or higher Type 2 charger (minimum requirement standard 3 pin 13A charger),
2. Dedicated free standing weatherproof chargers

Source: Lancaster City Council / Mott MacDonald

It should be noted that, where charging facilities are shared (e.g. through the development of flats), any provision of infrastructure should also include arrangements for the future operation and maintenance of the facility.

TPP16: Off-Street Charging Points for Electric Vehicles

The Council actively promotes a shift towards Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs) / Electric Vehicles (EVs) in order to help meet pollution targets. Provision of parking spaces and infrastructure for ULEVs / EVs should be included as a fundamental aspect of new developments.

To mitigate the impact of ULEV / EV traffic growth on demand for electric vehicle charging points, the Council's parking standards for new developments will include:

- A range of car parking standards for the provision of electric vehicle charging points and associated dedicated parking spaces; and
- Developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for managing the demand for and impact on electric vehicle charging points.



On-Street Electric Charging Points

One of the biggest issues slowing the switch from petrol and diesel cars to electric vehicles is the lack of infrastructure in the UK.

Evidence indicates that most plug-in vehicle owners will wish to do the largest proportion of their charging at home. The availability of affordable and accessible domestic charging options is, therefore, key to increasing the uptake of plug-in vehicles in the UK. To this end the Government currently offers the Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme (EVHS), for residents to receive a grant towards the installation of domestic charge-points at their homes. However, to be eligible they must have dedicated off-street parking in the form of a garage or driveway.

Many areas of the UK, including Thurrock, have residential areas where off-street parking is not an option, presenting a barrier to plug-in vehicle adoption.

In order to help residents overcome this barrier, and prepare for the future, the Government's Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) has invited Local Authorities to submit applications for an On-Street Residential Grant Scheme. The Scheme funding is aimed at increasing the availability of plug-in vehicle charging infrastructure for those who do not have access to off-street parking, thereby ensuring that off-street parking is not a pre-requisite for realising the benefits of owning a plug-in electric vehicle.

The OLEV scheme has an allocated funding level of £4.5m for 2018/19 and 2019/20 for on-street residential projects. This funding (which is available to Local Authority eligible projects, on a first come, first-served basis) is for 75% of the capital costs of procuring and installing the charge-point and an associated dedicated parking bay (where applicable), in line with OLEV technical specifications.

The Council's annual review of controlled parking demand and charges should include a review of the usage, demand, numbers and locations of on-street electric charging points within CPZs and other areas.

TPP17: On-Street Charging Points for Electric Vehicles

The Council will seek to increase, and annually review the provision of, on-street electric vehicle charging points within residential, town centre, commercial and industrial areas.



FOOTWAY AND VERGE PARKING

Parking on the footway causes an obstruction for pedestrians with wheelchairs and buggies, sometimes forcing them into the carriageway and creating a road safety issue. Where parking occurs on footways that have not been appropriately constructed or amended to accommodate appropriate vehicle weight this can result in broken paving surfaces, which can become a trip hazard and lead to serious injury to pedestrians.

Footway parking however is not generally banned outside London. Rule 244 of the Highway Code states you:

“should not do so elsewhere unless signs permit it”.

The wording “should not” is an advisory statement only. However, footway parking can be prohibited by:

- A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) prohibiting footway parking made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 2006.
- A prohibition of waiting, during the days / hours over which this prohibition applies, made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 2006. A waiting restriction normally applies from the centre of carriageway to back of highway, which is normally the back of footway.
- A combination of both.

Traffic Signs and Regulations General Directions sets out standard signs which are required to indicate where footway parking has been prohibited / is permitted through a TRO.

See the Council’s separate **Verge and Footway Parking** document.



TPP18: Footway Parking

The Council will undertake a comprehensive review of the extent of footway parking and will consider the introduction of targeted bans on parking on the footway and verges in identified locations as appropriate, with exemptions being specifically signed and marked.



COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

Loading / Unloading at Premises

Commercial vehicles are regarded as those vehicles delivering goods to or removing goods from premises. It is recognised that servicing requirements may be unique to a particular site. Commercial traffic varies with the type of enterprise within a given use class (e.g. the traffic serving a furniture shop may be very different in frequency and character from that supplying a supermarket).

Developers should analyse their development's own requirements in terms of the numbers and types of commercial vehicles visiting their premises and should demonstrate to Thurrock Council, as Local Planning Authority, that any development proposal includes sufficient dedicated commercial vehicle provision within the site to meet normal requirements such as provision for loading, unloading, and turning. Such commercial provision should be clearly signed and marked to avoid being utilised as an overflow parking area for cars.

Consideration should also be given to operational periods for loading/ unloading to ensure that areas that are dedicated to loading / unloading can also be used, outside of those operational hours, for car parking.

TPP19: Commercial Vehicle Parking/ Loading/ Unloading to New Developments

To mitigate the impact of loading / unloading of commercial vehicles the Council's parking standards includes the requirement for developers of new developments to provide:

- Detailed numbers and frequencies of commercial vehicles requiring loading / unloading, including refuse collections;
- The operational hours of loading unloading;
- The numbers, location and layout of dedicated loading / unloading bays;
- The layout of vehicle turning areas, with vehicle swept paths; and
- Details of facilities for commercial vehicle drivers.

To mitigate the impact of new developments on the public highway contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for managing the demand for and impact of commercial vehicle parking, loading and unloading.

Lorry / Commercial Vehicle Parking

Legally, Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) drivers are required to rest for 11 hours between working days (with certain exceptions) and they are also required to take a 45-minute break after a period of 4.5 hours of driving / working.

Common practice is to aim to park up by about 6.00pm - 7.00pm, which after an 11-hour rest, would permit an onward journey from 5.00am-6.00am the next morning. Because of traffic, ferries, opening times at depots / distribution centres etc., there is a degree of flexibility over the start and end times of these rest periods.

Lorry / commercial vehicle parks are important in aiding safe and efficient freight movements and their provision should be related to development contributions via planning agreements.

An internet application called "Truck Parking Europe" provides an interactive map with lorry parking locations across Europe. These locations are added to and rated by the lorry drivers themselves. In Thurrock there are a number of locations highlighted with the indicated number of lorry parking places as set out in below:

Designated Lorry Parks

- 30 places at Esso Services, Purfleet-on-Thames Bypass
- 40 places at London Gateway Truck Park
- 40 places at Truckpark, Botany Way
- 50 places at M25, Thurrock Services
- 100 places at Titan Truck Stop, Stoneness Road
- 50 places at M25, Thurrock Services

Source: Truck Parking Europe

Thurrock has a significant level of roadside overnight parking due to:

- Thurrock's location in relation to the main crossings to Europe. HGV drivers leaving the ferry ports in Kent and heading to the Midlands or the North of England and vice versa may, due to the time taken driving to Thurrock via the motorway network and Dartford Crossing, be forced to take a break or overnight stop around the area of the Crossing. Inevitably, therefore, drivers may be looking to stop in and around Thurrock.
- There is a concentration of depots and industrial sites and port-related businesses in the Borough. HGV drivers plan to be as close to their destinations the night before to ensure they are at the front of the queue to deliver or pick up their loads the following morning.
- Limited availability of low-cost HGV parking. Some companies will pay drivers overnight expenses but accept that if they choose to sleep in the cab they are perfectly entitled to keep the money. Other companies and owner-drivers do not have any financial support for overnight parking. Regardless, HGV parking has to be reasonably priced and available if it is to be used. Thurrock does not have a large supply of specific low-cost HGV parking.
- Good parking locations (either in lorry parks or on-street) are broadcast via social networking. The result being that where one truck parks, others follow.

Many drivers prefer to save the cost of using a lorry park and prefer to “cab over” (sleeping overnight in the lorry cab) elsewhere for free. They also have a natural preference to congregate together in the interests of their safety and security, including lessening the risk of theft from their vehicles.

In general, because of the air pressure / wind effects and noise from passing trucks, they will often try to avoid parking in lay-bys next to busy roads so as to avoid having their sleep disturbed. These drivers prefer to park, at no cost, in offset lay-bys or in quieter roads, ideally close to a burger van, cafe, takeaway, pub, or local shops and services.

The shortfall of cheap, secure, clean off-street places to stop, eat, wash and rest in Thurrock means that a significant number of lorries are regularly parking in environmentally inappropriate places within the Borough, leading to complaints from local residents.

In some places lorry access restrictions have been put in place to improve the environment of an area by controlling the size of vehicles that can enter it. These are generally 7.5T maximum gross vehicle weight access bans (apart from vehicles seeking access for the purpose of loading / unloading within the area). These restrictions apply “at any time”.

As well as limiting access, this restriction also has the effect of preventing parking within the area. However, such a restriction is only enforceable by the Police. If lorries are found parking in the area, then Thurrock’s own enforcement officers are unable to take any direct action other than to contact the Police.

TPP20: Lorry / Commercial Vehicle Permitted Parking

Thurrock will seek support from the Department for Transport and other Local Authorities, in the context of national legal restrictions on drivers’ hours and Thurrock’s proximity to Channel ports, to help to facilitate the development of freight infrastructure that provides rest facilities for long-haul freight movements which arrive at ports in the East and South East of England.

To mitigate the impact on local parking demand of growth in the numbers of lorries / commercial vehicles seeking to park within Thurrock, the Council’s parking standards for new developments require:

- Developments under Use Class E(g), B2 and / or B8 in excess of 30,000 square metres will only be permitted where adequate overnight commercial vehicle parking and driver facilities are provided. See separate Parking Design and Development Standards document;
- Provision to be made for overnight parking for lorries/ commercial goods vehicles where 24-hour operations are permitted. Developers will be required to demonstrate that the provision within the site is sufficient to cater for the demand generated by the development;
- Secure, safe facilities to be provided for lorry / commercial vehicle drivers to rest, cook, shower, change and sleep, including ongoing cleaning and maintenance of the facilities; and
- Contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) for provision, maintenance and ongoing operation of new, off-site, lorry / commercial vehicle parking and driver facilities to manage the increased demand generated by new developments; and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) for managing the increased volume of lorries / commercial vehicles generated by new developments parking within Thurrock and impacting on access, the local environment and road safety.

TPP21: On-Street Overnight Lorry Parking Ban

To mitigate the impact of lorries and large vehicles parking on-street, the Council will investigate the possibility of introducing area wide overnight parking bans for vehicles over 7.5T, enforceable by Council Enforcement Officers.

COACH PARKING

Developments likely to generate coach traffic should provide appropriate off-street facilities for coaches stopping, setting down passengers, parking whilst waiting, picking up passengers and appropriate turning facilities (avoiding the requirement for coaches to reverse in or out of a site where possible, taking into consideration pedestrian safety).

TPP22: Coach Parking

To mitigate the impact on local parking demand from coaches seeking to park within Thurrock, the Council's parking standards for new developments require:

- Provision to be made for coaches to set down and pick up passengers, to park and to turn safely. Developers will be required to demonstrate that the provision within the site is sufficient to cater for the demand generated by the development;
- Provision to be made for secure, safe rest facilities for coach drivers; and
- Contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) for provision, maintenance and ongoing operation of new, off-site, coach parking and driver facilities to manage the increased demand generated by new developments; and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) for managing the increased volume of coaches generated by new developments parking within Thurrock and impacting on access, the local environment and road safety.

PARKING AT RAILWAY STATIONS

Parking at railway stations is a contentious issue. Use of rail for journeys that might otherwise be undertaken by car must be encouraged. Increasing capacity at stations, however, discourages use of sustainable modes to access interchanges. Consequently, decisions on station parking issues will be taken on their respective merits.



CAR CLUBS

Car clubs work by providing members access to a car on a short-term rental basis, charging by the hour or the day. Cars are booked online or by phone and then unlocked from a designated bay in the local neighbourhood.

A car club offers the convenience of being able to use a car for trips that cannot easily be made by public transport, cycling or walking. Car clubs provide access to a car without the need to own one and members consequently benefit from cost savings in terms of car tax, fuel, MOT, car servicing etc.

Car club cars are more environmentally friendly, emitting over 20% less CO₂ per kilometre than the average car, as they are used more efficiently. It is estimated that one car club car replaces over 20 private cars, helping to reduce congestion and free up parking spaces.

Car club bays should be introduced close to railway stations, public transport interchanges, major retail car parks within five years.



TPP23: Car Clubs

Where large new developments are proposed, requiring the provision of >50 car parking spaces, developers will be required to provide a minimum of 2 car club vehicles per 50 car parking spaces as well as associated operational infrastructure with one parking space to potentially be reserved for each car club vehicle. This also includes the possibility that these may require electric charging points which will be in addition to charging points required for other vehicles.

Developers will be required to demonstrate to Thurrock the results of engagement with car club operators and set out proposals for car club provision within the development.

To mitigate the impact on local parking demand of growth in the numbers of vehicles seeking to park within Thurrock, the Council's parking standards for new developments require

- Developers to demonstrate whether complementary measures can be put in place to make it more convenient for residents not to own a car, for example car sharing or pooling arrangements, including access to a car club scheme.
- Developers to demonstrate that, where car club spaces are proposed, the provision of car club spaces within the site is sufficient to cater for the demand generated by the development.
- Contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) for provision, maintenance and ongoing operation of car club vehicles, parking spaces and physical and operational infrastructure; and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) contributions will be sought for managing the increased demand for car club parking bays and infrastructure generated by new developments.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR NEW PARKING CONTROLS

As required by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA84), all restrictions on kerbside parking have to be introduced by making a permanent or experimental Traffic Regulation Order. As part of the order-making process, local authorities are required to carry out statutory consultations that last at least 21 days with defined stakeholders. These include:

- the emergency services;
- adjoining authorities if affected;
- representatives of freight transport operators; and
- other known stakeholders who would be materially affected by the proposals.

As part of the formal statutory order-making consultation the Council will advertise the proposals via Public Notices which will be placed in the local press, on lamp columns in the area and on the Council's web site. In addition, the Council will undertake informal consultation with residents and elected Ward Members. The scale of this informal consultation will be appropriate to the scale of change proposed.

For example, where the proposal is a large CPZ or PPA a detailed informal public consultation will take place. This consultation enables residents and businesses to view the proposed parking layout, understand the financial implications and be able to query how the scheme will affect them. Depending upon the consultation strategy adopted, a statutory consultation phase, in accordance with the RTRA84, may either take place in parallel or after the informal consultation is completed.

For small scale proposals, such as amendments to existing parking bay layouts, a separate informal consultation may be omitted, but the required statutory consultation phase may be expanded to provide more detail on the proposals to affected residents and local businesses. A supplementary letter-drop to immediately affected persons making them aware of the proposals and the statutory consultation may also be undertaken to increase the level of awareness of the statutory consultation.

For each approach, maximising the level of responses to both informal and statutory consultations is crucial to allowing the Council and Ward Members to make informed decisions on behalf of local residents and businesses.

The Council will utilise online consultations and questionnaires. This approach allows for greater flexibility in reaching and responding to consultees and potentially opens access to decision-making to a broader spectrum of the population. Through this process, stakeholders in the community can play a part in developing schemes that provide solutions which address specific local issues. Encouraging on-line responses is also an effective way of reducing Council costs by decreasing postage costs and allows responses to be analysed more efficiently.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND ANNUAL REPORTING

The routine management and operation of parking controls requires there to be a regular review process. This will include examination of:

- the performance of existing controls in terms of compliance and impact;
- the need for updated / new measures to be introduced;
- the costs of operations;
- innovations in parking control technology;
- the balance between supply and demand for parking spaces; and
- the charges for parking.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be used to monitor the performance of the management of parking demand and enforcement.

5. MANAGING FUTURE DEMAND

Thurrock is likely to face a series of future challenges and opportunities which are reflected in the Parking Strategy to ensure it is fit for the future.

Key considerations include:



Future development across the Borough and the associated growth in vehicles



Uncertainty in car ownership levels



Major transport infrastructure schemes such as the proposed Lower Thames Crossing



Expected growth in cycling trips



Growth in the use of new trends such as car clubs and electric vehicles

Future development, as set out in the paragraphs below, has the potential to significantly increase parking pressures in the Borough. Additionally, increased parking demand at these locations could adversely impact safety on the highway network if not managed properly.

The parking strategy provides a framework to restrict on-street parking in locations with good public transport access and ensure that future growth does not exacerbate existing parking stress and associated issues. It will also ensure that sufficient on-street provision is provided for Blue Badge vehicles, car clubs and electric vehicles to accommodate future demand.

As noted in the Local Development Framework, Thurrock is a designated growth area within the Thames Gateway. There are five key regeneration areas, as further detailed below.

Purfleet-on-Thames

- Development of a mix of dwellings, employment and community facilities focused around a new centre adjoining the railway station and riverside;
- New dwellings and retail and leisure and arts permitted as part of regeneration of area.;
- New neighbourhood area at the southern end of Botany Way adjoining the station, with a Community Hub Centre, a Health Centre, schools, and shopping facilities;
- High quality mixed-use and small business development will be encouraged at Botany Way and west of the railway station;
- Cultural industries, including the Royal Opera House project, will be located on a site at High House Farm.
- Additional employment sites at the northern and eastern ends of Purfleet-on-Thames;
- Public access along the riverfront will be improved with new urban open spaces; and
- New road link connecting London Road and the Purfleet-on-Thames by-pass to improve access and traffic flow.

Tilbury

- Jobs in logistics, port and riverside industries;
- New dwellings over the longer term, with improved health and community facilities;
- Major renewal of housing and local facilities in the centre to create an eco-quarter;
- Land between Tilbury and the riverside will be enhanced and opportunities for appropriate re-use
- Further development of cultural facilities and industry based upon the riverside development; and
- Improvements to transport links. A Strategic Lorry Park will be developed on Tilbury Marshes.



Grays

- Regenerated as the key Civic, Cultural and Education centre in the Borough;
- Additional dwellings and jobs including commercial offices;
- New commercial and residential quarter will be developed to the south of the railway;
- Higher Education / Further Education Open Learning Campus in the town centre and new schools around the town centre;
- New community hospital and further community facilities will be retained and improved;
- New transport zone will be developed around the station; and
- New housing-led development in Titan Pit area with community facilities, sports hub area in North East.

Lakeside / West Thurrock

- New housing, employment and associated development the Lakeside / West Thurrock Regeneration area;
- New dwellings to the south and east of Lakeside
- New neighbourhood areas will be developed at West Thurrock and South Stifford including community and health facilities, primary schools, and shopping facilities; and
- Improved accessibility east and west to Lakeside Shopping Centre from A13, relocated bus station, road and parking alterations.

London Gateway / Corringham and Stanford-Le-Hope

- 11,000-13,000 jobs created in import-export based employment at London Gateway;
- Strategic lorry park;
- New homes at Corringham and Stanford-le-Hope, with some green belt land release; and
- Improved community facilities including refreshed schools and an improved and enhance town centre of Stanford-le-Hope.

Outlying Settlements

- Limited housing development at East Tilbury and Chadwell St Mary together with some improved local facilities;
- Mixed use development within East Tilbury; and
- South Ockendon / Aveley will be a focus for regeneration.

FUTURE CONTROLLED ZONES

Whilst Thurrock has no current proposals for the introduction of new CPZs or PPAs, this will be kept under review and, depending upon the changing circumstances, proposals may be brought forward for implementation, subject to detailed discussion and consultation with Members, local residents and businesses.

6. SUMMARY

This document sets out the draft Thurrock Council's Parking Policy and Strategy. The Parking Policy and Strategy, along with the Parking Design and Development Standards and the Parking Enforcement Strategy aims to inform decision-making on parking across the Borough.

Thurrock is one of the largest regeneration area in the UK, and large-scale change in the provision of housing and industry is expected to take place over the next decade. In order to manage some of the impacts of this change, a Parking Strategy is required.

The purpose of the Parking Strategy is to;

1. Assist planning officers in determining appropriate standards for new developments;
2. Advise members of the public in a readily comprehensible manner;
3. Assist intending developers in preparing plans for the development of land;
4. Expedite the determination of planning applications by ensuring that applications submitted include an appropriate level and location of car parking provision that also complements good place-making including public realm; and
5. Ensure new developments incorporate seamlessly emerging vehicle technologies, such as electric vehicle charging facilities.

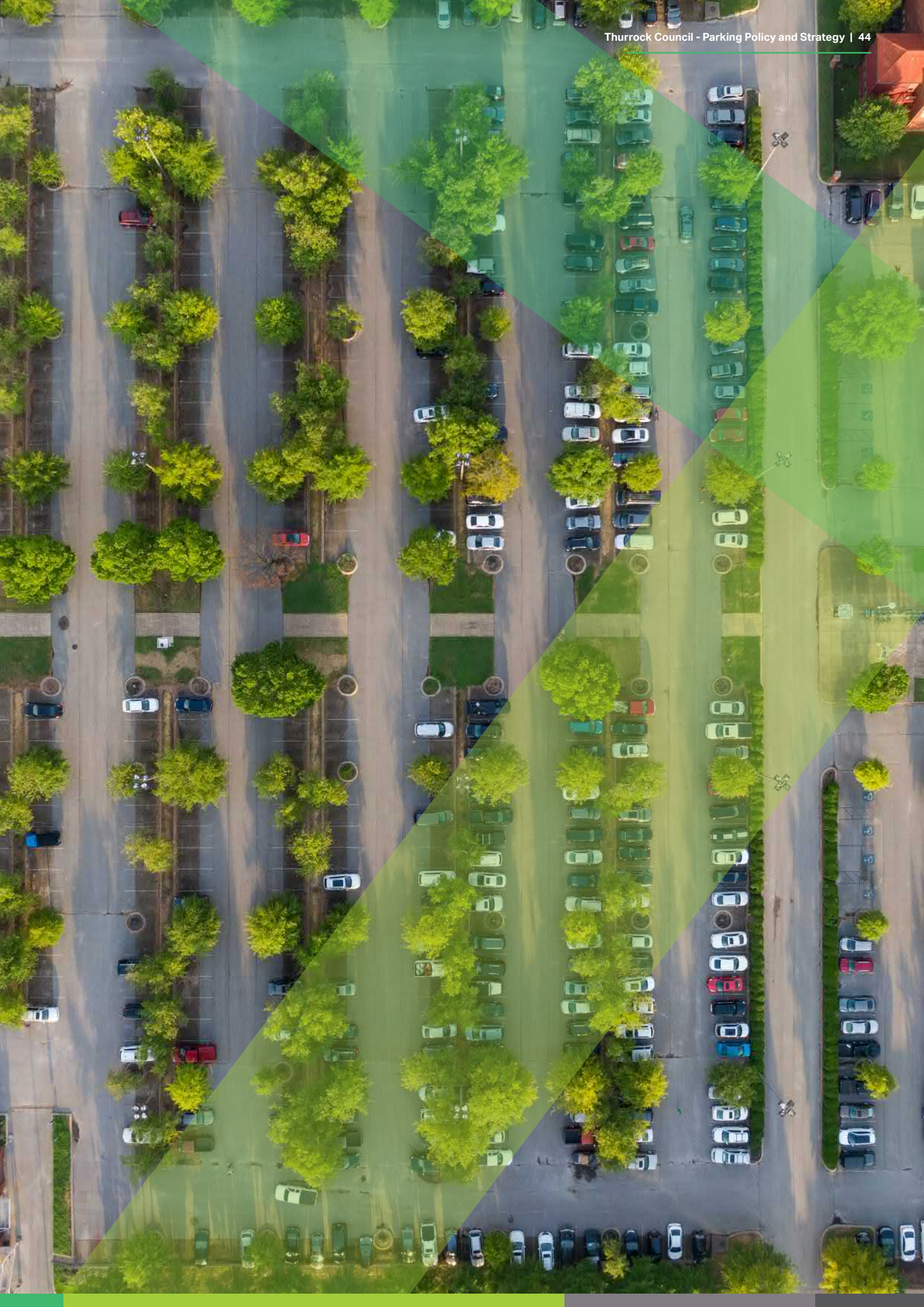
A review of national and local policy and guidance was undertaken, and is summarised in Section 3. This has informed the development of a series of strategic parking objectives for Thurrock;

- On and off-street parking should be provided and managed to accommodate the needs of residents and local businesses, encourage modal shift and support future growth in the Borough;
- Parking management tools and policies should maintain and improve road safety;

- Parking management tools and policies should reduce congestion and encourage smooth traffic flow, improving the local environment and air quality;
- Enforcement policies should be fair, robust, and proportionate but should also balance demand and supply across the Borough;
- Parking charges should be fair and proportionate but should also balance demand and supply across the Borough;
- Additional parking pressures generated by new development should be identified at the planning stage. Suitable mitigation agreed should also balance demand and supply across the Borough; and
- Local residents should be fully involved in, and consulted on, proposed changes to parking arrangements but minority opposition should not prevent proposals being introduced for wider benefit.

Policies to achieve these objectives across all areas of parking are set out in Section 4 of this document, covering parking permits and payment, on-street restrictions, parking for new developments, Blue Badge parking, cycle and powered two-wheeler parking, electric vehicle charging, footway parking, coach and lorry parking, car clubs, parking enforcement and regular reviews of parking measures.

The Parking Policy and Strategy represents a significant step in creating a safe and inclusive environment for Thurrock residents and businesses.



APPENDICES

A.	Parking Strategy Action Plan	... 46
----	------------------------------	--------

A. PARKING STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

Action Plan for the Future of Parking in Thurrock

Policy	Key measures	Outcome
TTS15: Thurrock's Transport Strategy Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short and medium stay car parking provision will be favoured in urban areas, and will be limited to the current number of car parking spaces; Additional parking provision may be appropriate at rail stations and other public transport interchanges to facilitate travel by sustainable modes; and Parking will be increased at rail stations where Station Travel Plans are implemented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced congestion Improved air quality
TMP6: Thurrock's Traffic Management Plan Policy: Parking Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will work to minimise disruptions / delays resulting from parking, loading and waiting; The Council will prioritise enforcement on traffic sensitive streets, bus and cycle lanes, known areas of congestion, where persistent contraventions exist; and Increased parking at rail stations will be supported by stronger parking controls to mitigate potential traffic increases around stations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced congestion and delay Improved environment Encouraging sustainable travel choices
TPP01: Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) and Permitted Parking Areas (PPAs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developers will be required to contribute to the cost of surveys, design, consultation and implementation of new or extended CPZs or PPAs proposed or required as mitigation to an anticipated parking demand issue generated by a new development; and They will also be required to produce a parking management plan as part of any new development proposals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation of parking demand issues generated by a new development
TPP02: Parking Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will make a charge for the provision of parking permits. The range of parking permits offered, the eligibility criteria and the charges will be subject to review, benchmarking and adjustment, as appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved customer convenience Improved accessibility Encouraging sustainable travel choices
TPP03: Pay By Mobile and Other New Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will investigate the introduction of pay by phone and other upcoming new technology for paying for parking across the Borough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved customer convenience Improved compliance with controls Reduced cost of dealing with cash and improved security Simplified finance and accounting

Policy	Key measures	Outcome
TPP04: On-Street and Off-Street Parking Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will set charges for on-street parking and for off-street parking in Council car parks. A set structure of parking charges and tariffs for both on-street and off-street environments will be set by the Council and reviewed, benchmarked and adjusted, as appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair and equitable balancing supply and demand of parking space Encouraging sustainable travel choices
TPP05: Waiting Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will introduce waiting restrictions in locations and at times where dangerous and / or obstructive parking takes place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced congestion Improved road safety
TPP06: Loading Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will introduce loading restrictions in locations and at times where parking for the purposes of loading / unloading is dangerous and / or obstructive and where this type of parking takes place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced congestion Improved road safety
TPP07: Stopping Restrictions (Clearways)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will introduce clearways on higher speed roads where vehicles stopping would be dangerous and / or obstructive to other road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced congestion Improved road safety
TPP08: School Parking Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures will be introduced to manage parking and stopping associated with the drop-off and pick-up of children in the vicinity of schools, during term time, at the beginning and end of the school day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved accessibility Reduced congestion Improved road safety
TPP09: Parking for New Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will operate a set structure of car parking standards and requirements for new developments. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a range of car parking standards that encourage sustainable travel choices and minimise the impact of parking in adjacent areas; and developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for parking management strategies; new parking controls associated with managing the parking demand generated by developments; and the impact of new developments on parking control of access and/ or road safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage sustainable travel choices Minimise the impact of parking in adjacent areas
TPP10: Blue Badge Parking for New Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developers will be required to demonstrate that their proposals adequately provide for the needs of people with disabilities, in line with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010; and Parking for people with disabilities will be required for their exclusive use at all times. Use of these spaces will usually require a Blue Badge to be displayed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased accessibility for people with mobility issues
TPP11: Blue Badge Parking Bays in Controlled Parking Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-street Blue Badge holder, parking bays will be provided in convenient locations e.g. close to shops, stations, doctors' surgeries etc in all town or district centre areas that fall within controlled parking areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased accessibility for people with mobility issues
TPP12: Blue Badge Residential Parking Bays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-street Blue Badge holder parking bays will be provided in residential areas, subject to application and assessment, when the badge holder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lives in a dwelling that has no off-street parking; and where on-street parking problems occur on a regular basis. Bays will normally operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, although there will be only limited enforcement outside the working day; and Bays are not reserved for an individual and may be used by any vehicle displaying a valid Blue Badge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased accessibility for people with mobility issues

Policy	Key measures	Outcome
TPP13: Cycle Parking Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycle Parking Standards will be applied to all applications for new or extended development. They are expressed as minimum standards to reflect the sustainable nature of this mode of travel; and • It is essential that secure, covered cycle parking with Sheffield or similar parking stands is designed into employee and residential type developments at an early stage, prior to the granting of planning permission to ensure it relates well to the development and provides suitable links / access to nearby cycle routes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased usage of sustainable travel modes • Improved air quality and congestion • Health benefits
TPP14: Powered Two Wheeler (P2W) Parking for New Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To mitigate the impact of traffic growth on congestion, air quality and local parking demand, the Council will operate a set structure of P2W parking standards for new developments. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a range of P2W parking standards, with secure, anchored locking points, that encourage sustainable travel choices and minimise the impact of parking in adjacent areas; • developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for parking management strategies; new parking controls associated with managing the parking demand generated by developments; and the impact of new developments on parking control of access and/ or road safety; and • where a travel plan exists, P2W parking provision should be reviewed annually to ensure there are adequate spaces to fulfilled demand. If there proves insufficient allocation, increased parking should be provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation of the impact of traffic growth on congestion, air quality and local parking demand
TPP15: Emissions Based Parking Permit Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of its review process, the Council will consider basing parking permit charges on vehicle emissions, with lower charges for lower emission/ electric vehicles, so as to encourage a change to less polluting vehicles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging sustainable travel choices
TPP16: Off-Street Charging Points for Electric Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council actively promotes a shift towards Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs) / Electric Vehicles (EVs) in order to help meet pollution targets. Provision of parking spaces and infrastructure for ULEVs / EVs should be included as a fundamental aspect of new developments; and • To mitigate the impact of ULEV / EV traffic growth on demand for electric vehicle charging points, the Council's parking standards for new developments will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a range of car parking standards for the provision of electric vehicle charging points and associated dedicated parking spaces. • Developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for managing the demand for and impact on electric vehicle charging points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging sustainable travel choices

Policy	Key measures	Outcome
TPP17: On-Street Charging Points for Electric Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will seek to increase, and annually review the provision of, on-street electric vehicle charging points within residential, town centre, commercial and industrial areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging sustainable travel choices
TPP18: Footway Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will undertake a comprehensive review of the extent of footway parking and will consider the introduction of targeted bans on parking on the footway and verges in identified locations as appropriate, with exemptions being specifically signed and marked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving accessibility for pedestrians Reducing footway and verge maintenance costs Reducing congestion
TPP19: Commercial Vehicle Loading/ Unloading to New Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mitigate the impact of loading / unloading of commercial vehicles the Council's parking standards includes the requirement for developers of new developments to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> detailed numbers and frequencies of commercial vehicles requiring loading / unloading, including refuse collections; the operational hours of loading unloading; the numbers, location and layout of dedicated loading / unloading bays; the layout of vehicle turning areas, with vehicle swept paths; and details of facilities for commercial vehicle drivers. To mitigate the impact of new developments on the public highway contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) covering contributions for managing the demand for and impact of commercial vehicle parking, loading and unloading. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation of the impact of growth in commercial vehicles loading, unloading and parking

Policy	Key measures	Outcome
TPP20: Lorry / Commercial Vehicle Permitted Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thurrock will seek support from the Department for Transport and other Local Authorities, in the context of national legal restrictions on drivers' hours and Thurrock's proximity to Channel ports, to help to facilitate the development of freight infrastructure that provides rest facilities for long-haul freight movements which arrive at ports in the East and South East of England; and • To mitigate the impact on local parking demand of growth in the numbers of lorries / commercial vehicles seeking to park within Thurrock, the Council's parking standards for new developments require: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developments under Use Class E(g), B2 and / or B8 in excess of 30,000 square metres will only be permitted where adequate overnight commercial vehicle parking and driver facilities are provided. See separate Parking Design and Development Standards document; • provision to be made for overnight parking for lorries/ commercial goods vehicles where 24-hour operations are permitted. Developers will be required to demonstrate that the provision within the site is sufficient to cater for the demand generated by the development; • secure, safe facilities to be provided for lorry / commercial vehicle drivers to rest, cook, shower, change and sleep, including ongoing cleaning and maintenance of the facilities; and • contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) for provision, maintenance and ongoing operation of new, off-site, lorry / commercial vehicle parking and driver facilities to manage the increased demand generated by new developments; and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) for managing the increased volume of lorries/ commercial vehicles generated by new developments parking within Thurrock and impacting on access, the local environment and road safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation of the impact on local parking demand of growth in the numbers of lorries / commercial vehicles seeking to park within Thurrock • Ensuring the safety of HGV drivers and greater security for their vehicle and loads at cost-effective locations in Thurrock
TPP21: On-Street Overnight Lorry Parking Ban	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council will investigate the possibility of introducing area wide overnight parking bans for vehicles over 7.5T, enforceable by Council Enforcement Officers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation of the impact of lorries and large vehicles parking on-street

Policy	Key measures	Outcome
TPP22: Coach Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To mitigate the impact on local parking demand from coaches seeking to park within Thurrock, the Council's parking standards for new developments require: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision to be made for coaches to set down and pick up passengers, to park and to turn safely. Developers will be required to demonstrate that the provision within the site is sufficient to cater for the demand generated by the development; • provision to be made for secure, safe rest facilities for coach drivers; and • contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) for provision, maintenance and ongoing operation of new, off-site, coach parking and driver facilities to manage the increased demand generated by new developments; and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) for managing the increased volume of coaches generated by new developments parking within Thurrock and impacting on access, the local environment and road safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation of the impact on local parking demand from coaches seeking to park within Thurrock
TPP23: Car Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where large new developments are proposed, requiring the provision of >50 car parking spaces, developers will be required to provide a minimum of 2 car club vehicles per 50 car parking spaces as well as associated operational infrastructure with one parking space to potentially be reserved for each car club vehicle. This also includes the possibility that these may require electric charging points which will be in addition to charging points required for other vehicles; • Developers will be required to demonstrate to Thurrock the results of engagement with car club operators and set out proposals for car club provision within the development; and • To mitigate the impact on local parking demand of growth in the numbers of vehicles seeking to park within Thurrock, the Council's parking standards for new developments require: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developers to demonstrate whether complementary measures can be put in place to make it more convenient for residents not to own a car, for example car sharing or pooling arrangements, including access to a car club scheme; • developers to demonstrate that, where car club spaces are proposed, the provision of car club spaces within the site is sufficient to cater for the demand generated by the development; and • section 106 funding for provision of car club cars, spaces and physical and operational infrastructure within CPZ's/ PPAs and elsewhere on the local road network as appropriate, to mitigate the growth in car traffic generated by new developments. • Contributions will be sought via developer agreements under Section 106 (Town and Country Planning Act 1990) for provision, maintenance and ongoing operation of car club vehicles, parking spaces and physical and operational infrastructure; and under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980) contributions will be sought for managing the increased demand for car club parking bays and infrastructure generated by new developments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging sustainable travel choices

Policy	Key measures	Outcome
TPP24: Parking Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council will undertake regular reviews of parking operations and control measures. Reviews will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring that new parking controls are provided in areas where they are needed. This will include a reviewing the potential for and prioritising the need for new CPZs, PPAs, waiting and loading restrictions; • ensuring that existing parking controls are appropriate to the area in which they are applied including identifying changes necessary to controls, hours of operation, signs, markings, parking charges; and • ensuring that appropriate Pay & Display machines are provided including reviewing numbers, locations and type of Pay & Display machines, taking account of potential for changing to solar powered machines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved environment • Reduced street clutter • Reduced energy consumption • Reduced costs

Source: Parking Policy and Strategy, Thurrock Council

