

Advisory Blue Badge Parking Spaces Policy

1. What is a Blue Badge Parking Space

- An advisory Blue Badge Parking Space (BBPS) is a parking space marked on the public highway which is available for use by **ANY** blue badge holder. Further information on the blue badge scheme including information on who can apply for one can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/blue-badge-can-i-get-one>
- They are provided to support residents whose medical conditions mean they qualify for a blue badge. The intention being to assist residents to park close to local amenities or their homes.
- Whilst an individual will typically submit a request for a new Blue Badge Parking Space, it is important to note that the parking spaces provided are not for their sole use and may be used by anyone with a blue badge. This is particularly relevant on roads which have a high number of blue badge holders and where it may not be feasible or appropriate to provide a parking space for each blue badge holder and there will be a need to share the facilities provided.



2. Where will a Blue Badge Parking Space be provided?

- A BBPS can only be provided on the adopted public highway. If you are unsure as to whether a location is part of the adopted public highway please contact us at highways@solihull.gov.uk for confirmation.

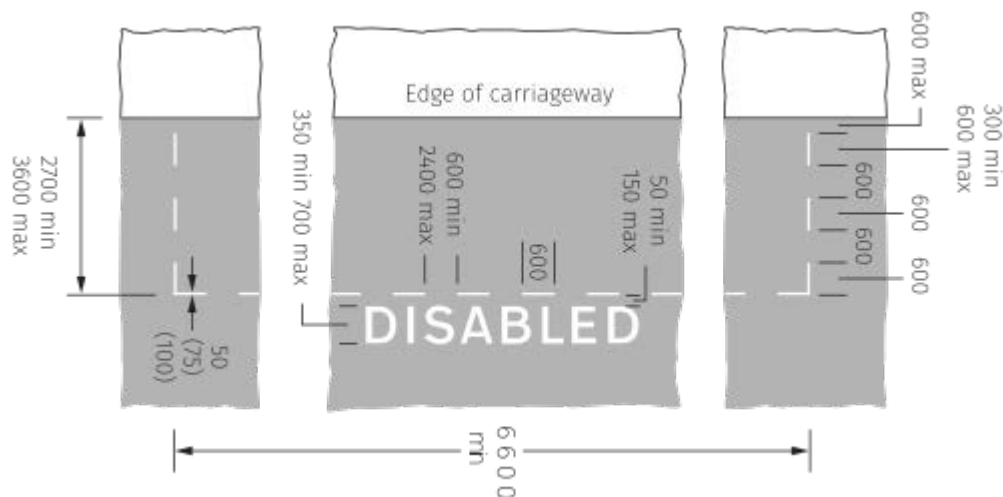
Please note that we cannot provide a BBPS in the following situations:

- where the applicant has access to suitable off-street parking or a garage
- for dial-a-ride, taxis, hospital drivers or others for the purposes of picking up or setting down passengers
- for the specific use of non-disabled visitors or carers

- A BBPS can also not be provided at, on, or near to the following:
 - roads with a width of less than 5.5 metres
 - in areas classed as turning heads or circles
 - opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction
 - a pedestrian crossing, including the area marked by the zig-zag lines
 - where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair and mobility vehicles users
 - a driveway entrance to a property
 - a bus or tram stop or taxi rank
 - a school entrance
 - a traffic island
 - a bend, the brow of a hill or hump bridge
 - a road marked with double white lines
 - a tram or cycle lane
 - on the approach to a level crossing/tramway crossing
 - where there are overriding interests within the neighbourhood

How will a Blue Badge Parking Space be marked on the ground?

- A Blue Badge Parking Space is an advisory road marking that will be defined on the ground using a broken white line as specified by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016. The size of the bay will typically be 6.6m in length and between 2.7m and 3.6m in width depending on the overall width of the road. The word "DISABLED" will be marked on the carriageway on the outside edge of the bay.



- Please note as an advisory marking a blue badge parking space it is **NOT** enforceable. As such whilst it is unlikely that the space will be utilised by someone who does not hold a blue badge, no action can be taken by the police or the council if a non-disabled person parks in the space.

3. How do I apply for a Blue Badge Parking Space?

- Applying for a Blue Badge Parking Space is quick and simple. Once you have read this Policy, including the assessment criteria below all you need to do is complete our electronic form which can be found here: <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/hmarkings#1> and submit your application.
- Your Application can **NOT** be processed unless the following is provided:
 - A scanned image/photocopy of the front **AND** back of the Blue Badge.
 - A copy of the V5 document for the vehicle registered at the application address.
 - Evidence that the applicant lives at the address submitted in the application (the above will fulfil this in most cases).

You will not be able to submit your application unless these documents are included so please ensure that you have copies to hand when you are ready to apply.

4. How much does a Blue Badge Parking Space application cost?

- There is no charge for an application.
- We do though have a limited budget each year to progress applications and install new parking spaces. Once the annual budget has been used, applicants are put on a reserve list in readiness for the next budget allocation. You will be informed at the time of your application if this is the case.

5. How are Blue Badge Parking Space applications assessed?

- Whilst we will always try to support and enable requests for Blue Badge Parking Spaces, there are some circumstances when we will not be able to approve an application.
- We assess the following criteria when reviewing applications:
 - The applicant must be able to demonstrate that they, or the person they are applying on behalf of, are a current 'Blue Badge' holder.
 - The applicant must live at the application address. Proof of evidence will be required.
 - The applicant or someone else resident at the application address must own a vehicle registered at the application address. Proof of evidence will be required.
 - The requested location of the Blue Badge Parking Space complies with **ALL** the requirements set out in section 2 of this policy.
 - That 25% or more of the current available spaces on the road are not already Blue Badge Parking Spaces. In such instances we will consult with Ward Councillors before referring the application to Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways prior to approval.

6. How are Blue Badge Parking Spaces reviewed?

- Advisory BBPS will be reviewed periodically and removed if necessary.
- Please ensure that you contact the Council if you move from a property or there is a change of circumstance which means that you no longer require the BBPS so that it may be altered/removed as appropriate. We can be notified of any such change at: highways@solihull.gov.uk

7. Need Further information?

- If you require further information or a printed copy of the application, you can contact us using the details below:

Email: bbps@solihull.gov.uk

Tel: 0121 704 8000

Post: Highways Management,
Economy and Infrastructure Directorate,
Solihull Council,
The Council House,
Solihull,
West Midlands,
B91 3QT.