
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	27 October 2022
Report By:	Head of Service – Roads & Environmental Services	Report No:	ENV036/22/GM
Contact Officer:	Gail MacFarlane	Contact No:	01475 714800
Subject:	Standardisation of Parking in Inverclyde – Consultation Findings		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise on the outcome of the public consultation exercise. The consultation was open to the public from 24 June 2022 to 26 August 2022 via an online questionnaire. The questionnaire sought views on standardised parking restrictions, on and off street, throughout Inverclyde.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that Committee notes the findings in the report and notes the proposal to retain the current on and off street restrictions.

Gail MacFarlane
Head of Service – Roads & Environmental Services

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Decriminalised parking enforcement (DPE) was introduced in Inverclyde on 6 October 2014. At this time the Greenock Town Centre Parking Strategy was implemented which saw the 30 minute waiting time which was already in place in the town being retained and parking discs introduced. The restrictions in the other town and village centres were kept as they were pre-DPE.
- 3.2 Since the introduction of DPE pressure has been put on the Council to vary the parking restrictions in various town and village centres. As a result each town and village has different parking restrictions both on and off street. The restrictions in place at the time of the public consultation are summarised below:

Settlement	Current on-street restrictions	Current off-street restrictions
Greenock	<u>Town Centre, Tobago St, Sir Michael St & Newton St</u> Mon-Fri 8am-6pm 2 hrs no return within 30 mins Except Permit Holders Disc must be displayed & <u>Outer Town Centre</u> Permit holders only Mon-Fri 8.15am-9.15am & 5pm-6pm	<u>Bullring, Cathcart St East, Dalrymple St, Hastie St, Roslin St, Station Ave East & West & West Stewart St</u> Mon-Fri 8am-6pm £2 per day & <u>Cathcart St West</u> Mon-Fri 8am-6pm 3 hrs no return within 1hr in Disc must be displayed
Port Glasgow	<u>Town Centre</u> Mon-Fri 8am-6pm 1 hr no return within 30 mins Except Permit Holders No disc required & <u>Outer Town Centre</u> Permit holders only Mon-Fri 8.15am-9.15am & 5pm-6pm	<u>Fore St & Shore St</u> Mon-Sat 8am-6pm No time limits or parking charges & <u>Princes St</u> Mon-Sat 8am-6pm 2 hrs (3 hrs for Blue Badge holders) no return within 1 hr No disc required
Gourock	<u>Kempock St</u> Mon-Sat 8am-6pm 1 hr no return within 1 hr Except Permit Holders Disc must be displayed & <u>Lower Kempock St</u> Mon-Sat 8am-6pm 3 hr no return within 1 hr Disc must be displayed	<u>Kempock St East</u> Mon-Sat 8am-6pm No time limits or parking charges & <u>Kempock St West</u> Mon-Sat 8am-6pm 3 hrs no return within 1 hr Disc must be displayed & <u>Station Rd North & South</u> Mon-Fri 8am-6pm £2 per day
Kilmacolm	Mon-Fri 8am-6pm 2 hrs no return within 30 mins No disc required	No time limits or parking charges

Since this consultation was undertaken the following tariffs have been introduced in Fore Street and Shore Street car parks in Port Glasgow and Kempock Street car park in Gourock (Kempock Street East and West car parks have now been combined into car park with one tariff):

Monday – Friday

8am-6pm

0-3 hours Free (one free stay per day per town)

3+ hours £2 per day

Except Permit Holders

In Station Road North and South car parks in Gourock restrictions were removed on a Saturday. This means parking charges apply Monday to Friday and parking is free on Saturday and Sunday like the majority of car parks in Inverclyde.

- 3.3 Various parties have made representations stating that the various parking restrictions are confusing for them and visitors to the area.
- 3.4 At a meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee on 5 March 2020 it was remitted to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to arrange an All Members' Briefing and to undertake consultation with Elected Members and other interested parties on all car parks within Greenock town centre and to submit a report thereon to the Committee.
- 3.5 A Members' briefing was held on 2 June 2021 which provided Members with details of the standardised restrictions proposed: Appendix 1
- **On Street Proposal**
 - Proposed Restrictions :
 - Monday to Friday 8am – 6pm;
 - 2 hours no return within 30 minutes;
 - Exemption for Residents' Parking Permit holders; and
 - Requirement to display a disc.
 - **Off Street Proposal**
 - Introduce a tiered parking charge:

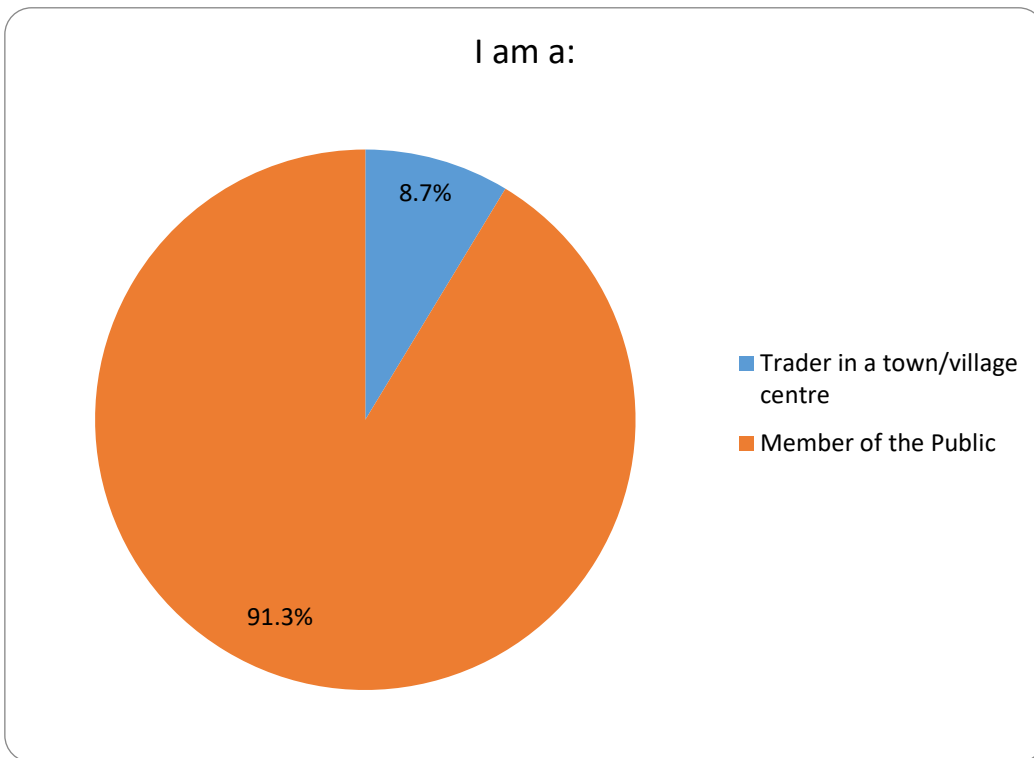
• 0-2 hours	Free
• 2-3 hours	£1.00
• 3-4 hours	£2.00
• 4 +	£4.00
 - Exemption for Residents' Parking Permit and Blue Badge holders.

Maps showing the existing and proposed restrictions are provided in Appendix 1.

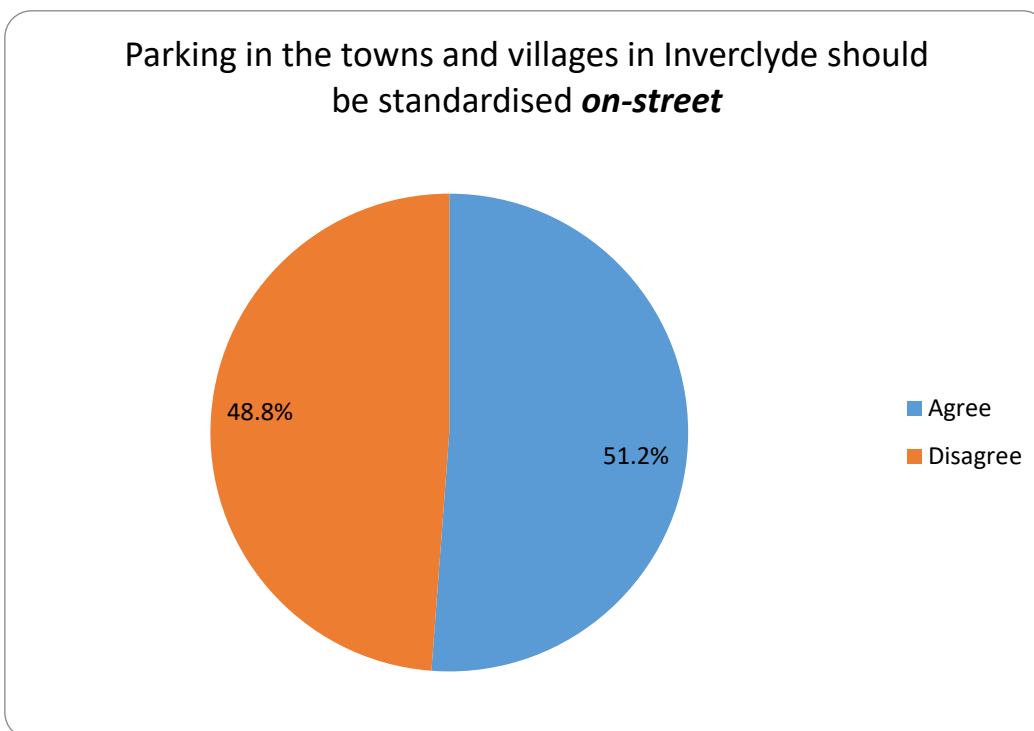
- 3.6 It was agreed that Officers would organise a public consultation to seek views on these proposals and report to a future meeting of the Committee.
- 3.7 The public consultation was undertaken via an online questionnaire between 24 June and 26 August 2022. Various communications were issued to highlight the consultation.

Survey Findings

- 3.8 A total of 464 surveys were completed, 91.3% were completed by members of the public and 8.7% by traders in town and village centres of Inverclyde.



- 3.9 When asked if they agreed with the proposed standardisation of **on-street** parking, 51.2% of respondents agreed and 48.8% disagreed.



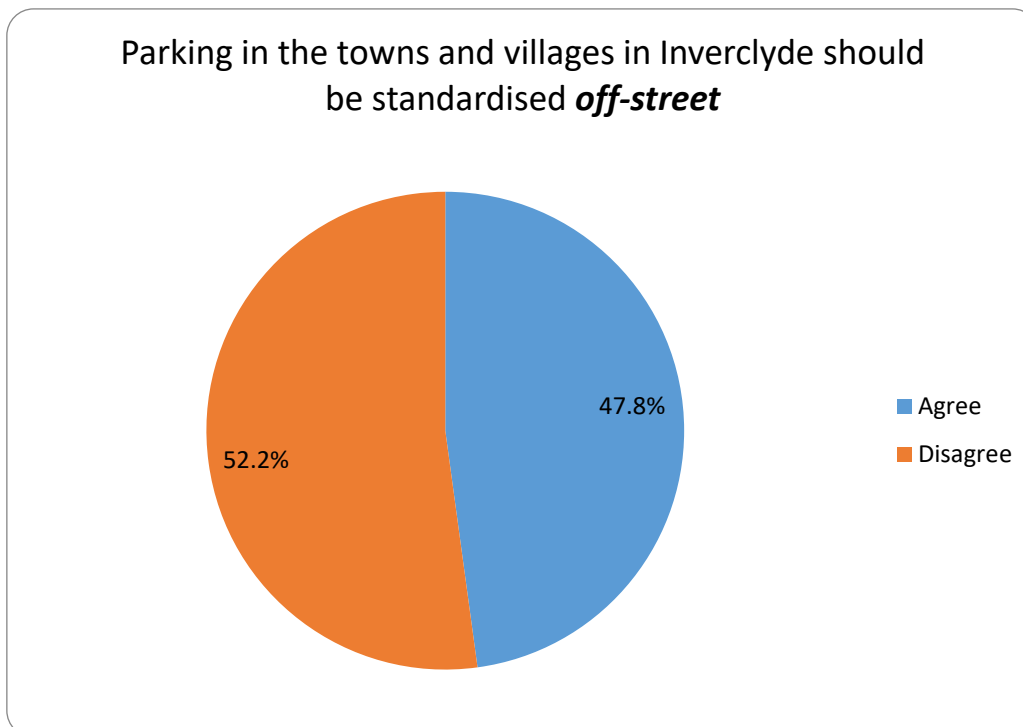
3.10 Respondents were asked if they agreed or disagreed with the proposed BI restrictions which are:

- 2 hour restriction with no return within 30 minutes, Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm.
- Requirement to display a parking disc.
- Exemption for Residents' Parking Permit holders and blue badge holders.
- Free of charge.

A total of 46.6% agreed with the proposals and 54.4% disagreed.



3.11 When asked if they agreed with the proposed standardisation of **off-street** parking, 52.2% of respondents agreed and 47.8% disagreed.

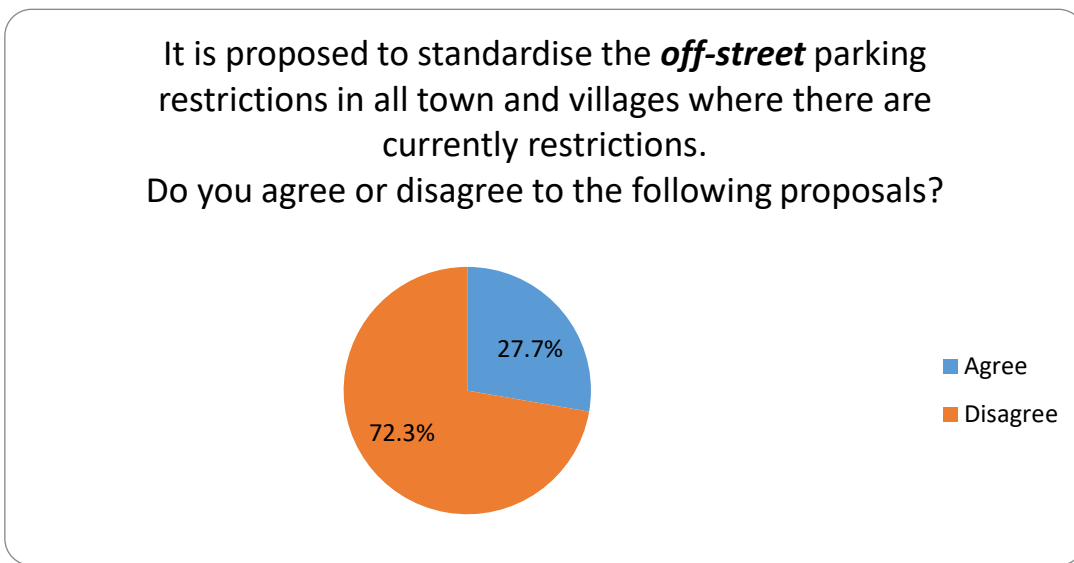


3.12 Respondents were asked if they agreed or disagreed with the proposed off-street car park restrictions which are:

- Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm.
- Exemption for Residents' Parking Permit holders and blue badge holders.

• Duration of Stay	• Parking Charge
• 0-2 hours	• Free
• 2-3 hours	• £1
• 3-4 hours	• £2
• 4+ hours	• £4

A total of 27.7% agreed with the proposals and 72.3% disagreed.



3.13 Respondents were asked to provide their postcodes. The majority of respondents are from Inverclyde, however, a small number are from outwith the area. A breakdown of postcodes and number of responses received is provided below:

Postcode	Area	Percentage of responses
G	Glasgow	0.9%
KA	Kilmarnock	0.4%
PA1	Paisley	0.2%
PA2	Paisley	0.2%
PA7	Bishopton	0.2%
PA8	Erskine	0.2%
PA11	Bridge of Weir	1.8%
PA13	Kilmacolm	20.6%
PA14	Port Glasgow	12.9%
PA15	Greenock	15.5%
PA16	Greenock	24.1%
PA17	Skelmorlie	0.7%
PA18	Wemyss Bay	2.4%
PA19	Gourock	19.9%

As expected due to it having the largest population in Inverclyde (approximately 55% of Inverclyde's population), Greenock respondents provided the most responses (39.6%).

Kilmacolm has the third smallest population of Inverclyde (approximately 5% of Inverclyde’s population), however, they provided the second highest response rate (20.6%).

3.14 As well as being asked the above “closed” questions respondents were given the opportunity to provide any other comments on the proposals. On analysing the response received there were key themes which emerged. These were:

Theme	Explanation
Will discourage visitors and trade to town/village centres	<p>Many of the responses felt that restrictions, parking charges and parking discs discouraged people from visiting and shopping in Inverclyde.</p> <p>Some made the point that there is little in some of the towns to visit as many shops have closed.</p> <p>Staff pointed out that they use businesses in the area too and that paying to park will discourage them from spending money in the area.</p> <p>Some respondents stated that they travel to shopping centres, etc. where there are no parking charges rather than pay to park in Inverclyde.</p> <p>Inverclyde Council should be encouraging people to come to Inverclyde rather than introduce more parking charges.</p>
Too expensive for staff	<p>A lot of staff from the towns and villages were concerned and angered that the charge to park would double.</p> <p>They feel this will further impact the cost of living crisis they are experiencing.</p> <p>Some respondents said that public transport is not an option for them as they do not live on a direct bus route.</p> <p>The cost of parking and lack of public transport lead to some people saying they would need to look for alternative employment closer to home.</p>
Kilmacolm isn’t like other settlements – there should be no restrictions or charges	<p>Respondents were often quite specific in their comments that they were referring to Kilmacolm. They feel that Kilmacolm is not like other settlements in Inverclyde.</p> <p>They believe that standardising parking in Kilmacolm to a standard that suits large towns will adversely impact on the village.</p> <p>Respondents pointed out that surrounding settlements like Bridge of Weir and Houston do not have parking charges and Kilmacolm will be at disadvantage.</p>
Parking should be free of charge	<p>In order to encourage trade some respondents believe parking should be free of charge.</p>

Remove parking discs	A number of respondents believe the parking discs should be removed as they have a negative impact on visitors. They do not believe they are easy to access and consider that it is difficult to remember to display your disc if a similar system is not in place in their local area.
Doubling parking charges is excessive	Increasing the cost of all day parking from £2 to £4 is believe to be excessive and inappropriate during the current cost of living crisis facing many families in the country.
Cost of living crisis	During the current cost of living crisis many respondents feel it is in appropriate to introduce new parking charges or increase existing charges.

3.15 A further breakdown of the data for Inverclyde is provided below:

Settlement	Trader	Resident	Do you agree with standardising parking restrictions <i>on-street</i> ?		Do you agree with the <i>on-street</i> proposals (see 3.5 above)		Do you agree with standardising parking restrictions <i>on-street</i> ?		Do you agree with the <i>off-street</i> proposals (see 3.5 above)	
			Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Kilmacolm	13.68%	86.32%	16.84%	83.16%	19.15%	80.85%	19.15%	80.85%	17.02%	82.98%
Port Glasgow	10.00%	90.00%	54.24%	45.76%	41.67%	58.33%	49.18%	50.82%	21.67%	78.33%
Greenock PA15	15.94%	84.06%	49.30%	50.70%	52.17%	47.83%	44.29%	55.71%	21.74%	78.26%
Greenock PA16	1.80%	98.20%	61.26%	38.74%	49.09%	50.91%	59.29%	40.71%	35.45%	64.55%
Wemyss Bay	0.00%	100.00%	45.45%	54.55%	36.36%	63.64%	36.36%	63.64%	9.09%	90.91%
Gourock	7.45%	92.55%	72.83%	27.17%	59.78%	40.22%	64.13%	35.87%	39.78%	60.22%

From the more detailed analysis there are clear differences in how some settlements feel about the standardisation of parking throughout Inverclyde and the detailed parking proposals. For example the majority of respondents in Kilmacolm do not support either the standardisation or the detailed proposals, whereas in Gourock the majority do. This is likely due to the strong feeling among Kilmacolm respondents that the village should not be treated in the same way as a town which more pressure on parking.

3.16 Within the 2023/25 budget process there is a savings option that proposes to increase daily off street parking charges by £1/day to £3/day within charging car parks.

3.17 The Traffic Regulation Order to introduce parking charges in the Lochwinnoch Road, Kilmacolm and Princess Street, Port Glasgow car parks is currently being progressed as agreed by this Committee on the 14 January 2021.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
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Financial		x	
Legal/Risk	x		
Human Resources		x	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		x	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		x	
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		x	
Environmental & Sustainability		x	
Data Protection		x	

4.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

4.3 Legal/Risk

Were the Committee to decide to promote changes to the current off street and/or on street restrictions, variations to 1 or more of the 5 of the DPE Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) would be required. The promotion of orders to do so would include the opportunity for objection. If there were any maintained objections the Environment & Regeneration Committee or an Independent Reporter will need to hear these and make a decision on whether the order in question should be proceed as it was promoted, amended or not made.

4.4 Human Resources

None.

4.5 Strategic

None.

4.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.

x

NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

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YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.

x

NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

4.7 **Children and Young People**

Has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

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YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.

x

NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children's rights.

4.8 **Environmental/Sustainability**

Summarise any environmental / climate change impacts which relate to this report.

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

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YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.

x

NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

4.9 **Data Protection**

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

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YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

x

NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 This report is a result of a public consultation on the standardisation of parking throughout Inverclyde. It notes the findings of the consultation undertaken between 24 June and 26 August 2022.

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 There are no background papers associated with this report.

Appendix 1 – Parking maps – Existing & Proposed Parking Restrictions (consultation material)

Current Restrictions

Gourock Parking Zones

From 1 July 2018

For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking

Inverclyde
council

- Car park
Unlimited parking
- Car park
Up to 3 hours max stay free
(Display parking disc)
- Parking disc zone
- Car park
Flat rate £2 per day
- On-street
Up to 1 hours max stay free
(Display parking disc)
- On-street
Up to 3 hours max stay free
(Display parking disc)
- Private Car Park
- On-street
No waiting or parking

Restrictions apply Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm



Proposed Restrictions

Gourock Parking Zones

For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking

Inverclyde
council

Restrictions apply Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm

- 0-2 Hours Free
- On-street
Up to 2 hours max stay free
Exemption for Permit and Blue Badge holders
(Display a parking disc)
- 2-3 Hours £1
- On-street
No waiting or parking
- 3-4 Hours £2
- No waiting or parking
- 4+ Hours £4
- Permit and Blue Badge holders exempt
- Private Car Park
- Parking disc zone



Current Restrictions

Proposed Restrictions

Greenock Parking Zones

Greenock Parking Zones

1 July 2018

For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking



For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking



Restrictions apply Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm

Restrictions apply Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm

- **On-street**
Up to 2 hours max stay free
(Display parking disc)
- **Car park**
Up to 3 hours max stay free
(Display parking disc)
- **Car park**
Flat rate £2 per day
(Pay and display)
- **On-street**
No waiting or parking
- **Car park**
Unlimited parking
- **Car park resident only**
(Resident permit holders only)

- **On-street**
Up to 2 hours max stay free
Exemption for Permit and Blue Badge holders
(Display parking disc)
- **0-2 Hours** Free
2-3 Hours £1
3-4 Hours £2
4+ Hours £4
Permit and Blue Badge holders exempt
- **Car park resident only**
(Resident permit holders only)
- **On-street**
No waiting or parking
- **Car park**
Unlimited parking

- **Zone GR1**
Resident permit holders exempt from time limits and parking charges
- **Zone GR2**
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am and 5 to 6pm
Resident permit holders only
- **Zone GR3**
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am and 5 to 6pm
Resident permit holders only
- **Zone GR4**
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am and 5 to 6pm
Resident permit holders only

- **Zone GR1**
Resident permit holders exempt from time limits and parking charges
- **Zone GR2**
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am and 5 to 6pm
Resident permit holders only
- **Zone GR3**
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am and 5 to 6pm
Resident permit holders only
- **Zone GR4**
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am and 5 to 6pm
Resident permit holders only



Current Restrictions

Kilmacolm Parking Zones

From 15 January 2018

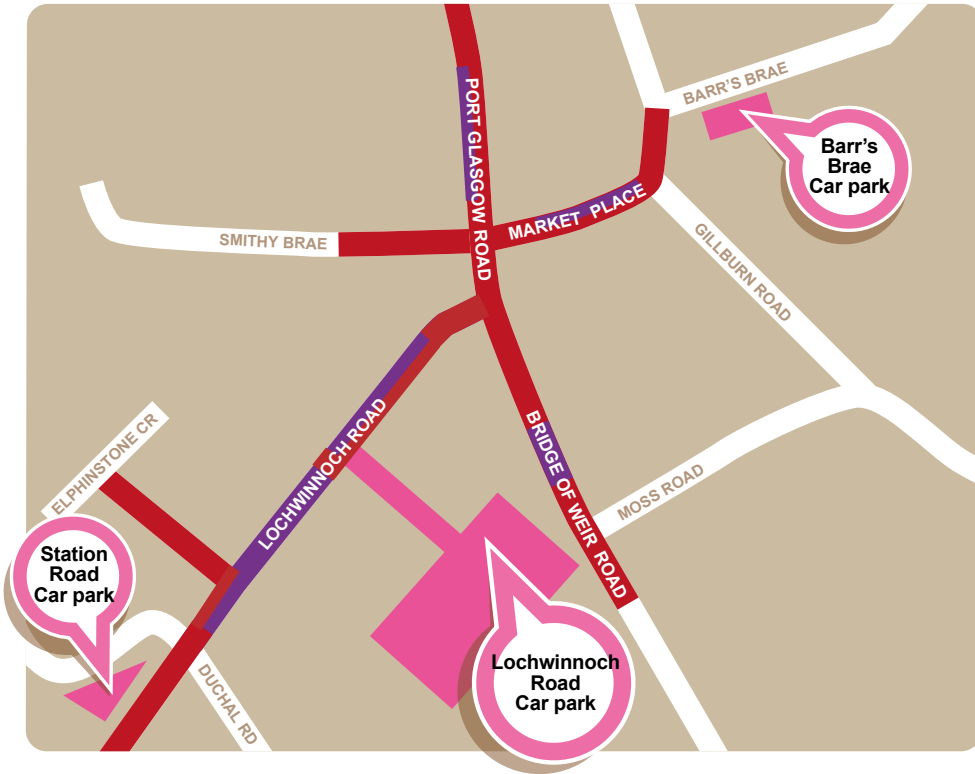
For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking



Restrictions apply Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm

- On-street
No waiting or parking
- Car park
Unlimited parking
- On-street
Up to 2 hours max stay free



Proposed Restrictions

Kilmacolm Parking Zones

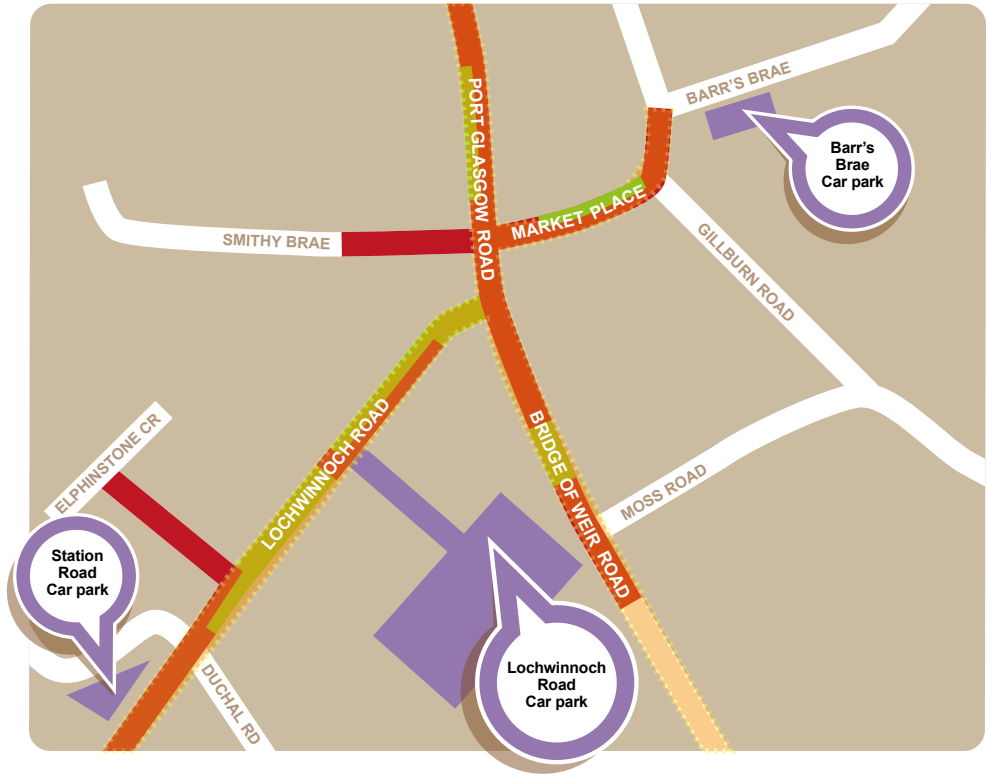
For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking



Restrictions apply Monday - Friday, 8am - 6pm

- On-street
No waiting or parking
- On-street Up to 2 hours
max stay free Exemption
for Permit and Blue Badge
holders
(Display a parking disc)
- 0-2 Hours Free Permit and
2-3 Hours £1 Blue Badge
3-4 Hours £2 holders
4+ Hours £4 exempt
- Parking disc zone



Current Restrictions

Port Glasgow Parking Zones

From 4 April 2022

For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking

Inverclyde
council

Restrictions apply Monday - Saturday, 8am to 6pm

- On-street
No waiting or parking
- On-street
1 hour stay free
Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm
- On-street
Unlimited parking
- Car park
Unlimited parking
- Car park
Up to 2 hours max stay free
- Resident permit
holders only
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am
and 5pm to 6pm
- 0-3 Hours Free (1 free stay per day)
3+ Hours £2



Proposed Restrictions

Port Glasgow Parking Zones

For more information visit

www.inverclyde.gov.uk/parking

Inverclyde
council

Restrictions apply Monday - Friday, 8am to 6pm

- On-street
No waiting or parking
- On-street
Up to 2 hours max stay free
Exemption for Permit and Blue Badge holders
(Display a parking disc)
- On-street
Unlimited parking
- 0-2 Hours Free
2-3 Hours £1
3-4 Hours £2
4+ Hours £4
Permit and Blue Badge
holders exempt
- Resident permit
holders only
Monday - Friday
8.15 to 9.15am
and 5pm to 6pm
- Car Park
Unlimited parking
- Parking disc zone

