

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

THE NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL (CONTROL OF PARKING) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER 2023 (AMENDMENT No.1) ORDER 2024

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Regulatory

1. DECISION TAKEN

- 1.1 That the Service Director: Regulatory through his delegated powers under Section 14.6.11(b) (v) of the Council Constitution granted approval in accordance with Part III, s16 of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) Regulations 1996 (LATO Regs) for ***North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 (Amendment No.1)*** as advertised on the 9th May 2024 (Copy of draft Order is attached at Appendix A).
- 1.2 That the Service Director: Legal and Community seals the Parking Places Amendment Order as outlined in paragraph 1.1.
- 1.3 That the Strategic Infrastructure & Projects Manager together with the Technical Projects Officer: -
- i) Publish the requisite notice as required under Part III, s17 of the LATO Regs.
 - ii) Arrange for appropriate traffic signs to be installed, where necessary as required under Part III, s18 of the LATO Regs.

2. DECISION TAKER

Ian Fullstone – Service Director - Regulatory

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

13 December 2024

4. REASON FOR DECISION

- 4.1 To proceed with the formal creation and subsequent publishing of the above Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to correct an administrative error and include the issuing of electronic/virtual resident, business and visitor permits and visitor tickets within in all

residential permit parking zones as listed in Schedule 2 of the North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 in Baldock, Hitchin, Knebworth, Letchworth and Royston.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None, in terms of seeking to correct an administrative error within the existing Order.
- 5.2 By not proceeding with virtual permits, the Council would not meet its climate change strategy in reducing paper permits to help reduce our carbon footprint. Virtual permits will also enable the Council to offer a more streamlined service for the customer, whereby permits will be available and usable instantly.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

- 6.1 It is a statutory requirement under Part II Section 6 of the LATO Regs to formally consult on a permanent Traffic Regulation Order. This included the following consultees likely to be affected by any provision in the Order: Local businesses and residents within all residential parking zones in Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth, Royston and Knebworth, and the following key statutory consultees: the local emergency services and Hertfordshire County Council as the Highway Authority and County Councillors. Local Members were also informed through MIS on 10th May 2024.
- 6.2 In accordance with Part II, Section 7 of the LATO Regs a 'Notice of Proposal's' containing the particulars of the proposals in the draft TRO was published in the local newspapers, The Comet and The Royston Crow on 9th May 2024 and site notices were displayed within all residential zones on lamp columns in Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth, Royston and Knebworth.
- 6.3 Copies of the published draft Order, together with Notice of Proposals and Statement of Reasons were made available to view during normal office hours at the Council Offices in Gernon Road, Letchworth and on the Council's website. The Consultation period ran from 9th May 2024 until 31st May 2024.
- 6.4 The current interim Executive Member for Planning and Transport has been consulted on the proposals and kept informed on progress.

6.5 See section 8 below summarising the outcomes of the statutory consultation exercise.

7. FORWARD PLAN

7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 The proposal is to correct an administrative error and to amend various definitions and articles in the North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 to enable the issuing of electronic permits in residential parking permit zones.

8.2 The administrative error is to provide clarity regarding loading and unloading restrictions in prohibited areas as shown on the Consolidated Order On-Street Plans, where no vehicle may stop, wait, load or unload except upon direction of or permission of a Police Constable in uniform or with permission of a Civil Enforcement Officer.

8.3 The main proposal is to accommodate the Council's intention to move towards the issuing of electronic/virtual permits within its residential permit parking zones across the district. The electronic permit will be recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database and downloaded upon the Civil Enforcement Officers handhelds thereby removing the need to display a paper permit in most instances. Paper permits will still be available on request where necessary. This amendment Order makes no other changes to the permit scheme.

8.4 No objections or comments were received to the proposed administrative error. While no objections were received to the introduction of virtual permits, some 26 responses were received, of which 19 were comments and 7 were in support.

8.5 The majority of comments raised were in relation to:

- The issuing of virtual permits regarding visitor and visitor ticket books and how these would be recorded on the Council's Data base and on the CEO handhelds to ensure correct registration and also to enforce non-compliance within permit parking zones;
- Concern regarding the cost of permits increasing and the possible changes to the terms and conditions;

- Whether paper permits will still be available for residents without electronic access; and
- How enforcement will be undertaken and its effectiveness regarding the use of resident permit bays.

8.6 In anticipation of the type of comments raised, The Strategic Infrastructure and Projects Manager together with officers within the Parking Services Team prepared a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) which was posted on the [Council's website](#) and updated through the consultation period to which residents were directed and sought to address their comments/concerns.

8.7. Given that no objections were received, and the comments have been adequately addressed through the FAQs as posted on the Council's website, and having consulted the interim Executive Member for Planning and Transport, it was the officer recommendation to the Service Director: Regulatory, that the proposed North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 (Amendment No.1) is published as stated in paragraph 1.1 above. The Service Director Regulatory supported the officer recommendation.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A Traffic Regulation Order is a legal order that restricts, prohibits or reduces the use of the highway in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984. Part III, s16 of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) Regulations 1996 referred to in section 1, 'Decision Taken' above prescribes the procedure to be followed by local authorities for making the main types of Traffic Regulation Orders, ensuring that local authorities comply with the provision of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984.

9.2 Under terms of reference 14.6.11 (b) (v) of the Constitution, the Service Director: Regulatory has delegated authority for traffic management including the creation of on and off-street parking orders.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The consultation costs, publication of notices and sealing of the Made TRO will be funded from the town wide parking review budget that was carried forward from 2023/24 of £10k.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Other than management of member and customer expectation in terms of the TRO not being 'Made' and implemented, there are no other risks associated with this proposal.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 12.2 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this decision. Alternatives to virtual permits will be made available where paper permits can be issued on request.

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13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to this decision.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 As noted at 5.2, the move to virtual permits from paper permits will contribute to reducing the Council's carbon emissions.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 Officers will be responsible for the implementation of the TRO which forms part of their normal duties.

16. APPENDICES

- 16.1 Appendix A: Copy of draft North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 (Amendment No.1)

17. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 17.1 Public 'Notice of Proposals' setting out NHDC's proposal to make the draft TRO (pursuant to arrangement with Hertfordshire County Council)
- 17.2 Statement of Reasons setting out the reasons for the proposal.
- 17.3 The North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 - sealed

17.4 These can be viewed on the Council's website at: [Parking orders and reviews | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk)

18. NOTIFICATION DATE

Signature of Executive Member Consulted 
Cllr Daniel Allen

Date13th December 2024

Signature of Decision Taker 
Ian Fullstone Service Director Regulatory

Date: 13 December 2024

Call-in does not apply given that this is a NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

APPENDIX A

Copy of draft North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order
2023 (Amendment No.1)

**THE NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
(CONTROL OF PARKING) (CONSOLIDATION) ORDER 2023
(AMENDMENT No.1) ORDER 2024**

Date of Order: XXXX 2024

Order No: NH2024/01

The North Hertfordshire District Council pursuant to arrangements made under Section 19 of the Local Government Act of 2000 and the Local Government (Arrangements for Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2000 with Hertfordshire County Council, and in exercise of their powers under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 45, 46 and 46A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (“the Act of 1984”) and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Act of 1984 and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act of 1984, hereby make the following Order: -

1. This Order shall come into force on the xx day of xx 2024 and may be cited as “The North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 (Amendment No.1) Order 2024”.
2. The provisions of The North Hertfordshire District Council (Control of Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2023 shall be amended as follows:

After the paragraph in article 3.(1) for the definition:
“Council”

Insert:

“Council’s Parking Permit Database” is an electronic record of permits issued by the Council under the provisions of Articles 6, 7, 8 and 9 of this Order;

Delete the entire paragraph in Article 3.(1) for the definition:
“Parking Permit”

And replace with:

“Parking Permit” means a Resident’s Permit, Business Permit, Visitors Permit issued in paper form or electronically under the provisions or Article 6 of this Order and recorded on the Council’s Parking Permit Database;

Delete the entire paragraph in Article 3.(1) for the definition:
“Parking Zone”

And replace with:

“Parking Zone” refers to all the parking places in a specified area indicated by name or alphanumerical code which are to be used only by vehicles displaying, or vehicles recorded on the Council’s Parking Permit Database as having, a valid Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket for that specified area during the specified hours of operation;

Delete the entire paragraph in Article 3.(1) for the definition:
“Permit Parking Place”

And replace with:

“Permit Parking Place” means any place where vehicles may park provided that a valid Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket is displayed in the Relevant Position or recorded on the Council’s Parking Permit Database;

Delete the entire paragraph in Article 3.(1) for the definition:
“Visitor Ticket”

And **replace with**:

“Visitors Ticket” means a ticket issued to a Resident in paper form or electronically under the provisions of Article 6(b) of this Order and recorded on the Council’s Parking Permit Database;

After the paragraph for:
Article 4.(j)

Insert:

4.(k) Save as provided in Articles 19 (c) – (g), 19 (i) – (k) and 21 of this Order, no person shall, except upon the direction of, or with the permissions of a Police Constable in uniform, or with the permission of a Civil Enforcement Officer, cause or permit any vehicle to stop, wait, load or unload on any part of a Road where loading or unloading is prohibited as shown on the On-Street Plans and identified and defined in the Key to the On-Street Plans.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 5.(a)

And **replace with**:

5. (a) Subject to the provisions of this Order, Permit Parking Places may be used for the leaving during the permitted hours of vehicles of the following class, that is to say, passenger vehicles (the overall height of which does not exceed 2.3 metres and the overall length of which does not exceed 5.25 metres), goods carrying vehicles (the overall height of which does not exceed 2.3 metres and the overall length of which does not exceed 5.25 metres), motorcycles and disabled persons vehicles (on which must be displayed the relevant parking disc) that display, or are recorded on the Council’s Parking Permit Database as having, a valid Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket in the Relevant Position.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 5.(b)

And **replace with**:

5. (b) Save as provided in Articles 19, 20(b), 21 and 30 of this Order no person shall, except upon the direction of or with the permission of a Police Constable in uniform or of a Civil Enforcement Officer, cause or permit any vehicle to be left in a permit parking place during the permitted hours without a valid Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket displayed, or vehicle recorded on the Council’s Parking Permit Database.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 5.(c)

And **replace with**:

5. (c) Where a motor vehicle is parked in contravention of Article 5(b) of this Order the driver of any such motor vehicle shall be issued with a penalty charge notice. The absence of a record on the Council’s Parking Permit Database, or Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket from a motor vehicle left in a Permit Parking Place shall be evidence of the fact that the driver does not have a Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 5.(d)

And **replace with**:

5. (d) Parking Permits or Visitors Tickets to be recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database, or displayed on/in vehicles left in Permit Parking Places at all times during which a vehicle is left in a Permit Parking Place as shown on the On-Street Plans and identified and defined in the Key to the On-Street Plans during the permitted hours, the driver thereof shall:

- i) cause to be displayed in the Relevant Position, Parking Permits or Visitors tickets so that all particulars referred to in Article 9 are readily visible from the front of the vehicle; or
- ii) have recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database a valid Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 7.(h)

And **replace with**:

7. (h) In accordance with Article 7(g) above the Council will serve notice in writing on the person to whom a paper Parking Permit or Visitors Tickets was issued at the address shown by the applicant on the application form or at any other address believed to be the applicant's place of abode, requiring that person to surrender the physical original paper Parking Permit or Visitors Tickets, to the Council with 7 days of the receipt of the notice.

After the paragraph for:
Article 7.(h)

Insert:

7.(i) Where a paper Parking Permit or Visitors ticket has been issued by the Council in accordance with the provisions of this Order, a duplicate record for the same vehicle on the Council's database shall not be classed as a valid Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket for the purposes of this Order and vice versa.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 9.(a)

And **replace with**:

9. (a) A Resident Permit shall be in writing, either as a paper Parking Permit to display in the vehicle or as written confirmation that it has been recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database, and shall include the following particulars:

- (i) A unique serial number by which the Permit Holder may be identified;
- (ii) The registration number(s) of the vehicle(s) for which the Resident Permit is issued;
- (iii) The expiry date of the Resident Permit;
- (iv) Authentication that the Resident Permit has been issued by the Council;
- (v) Identification of the Zone or street in which the Resident Permit is valid.
- (vi) Where no paper Resident Permit has been issued the registration number of the vehicle on which the Resident Permit is being used must be recorded in the Council's Parking Permit Database.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 9.(b)

And replace with:

9. (b) A Business Permit shall be in writing, either as a paper Parking Permit to display in the vehicle or as written confirmation that it has been recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database, and shall include the following particulars:

- (i) A unique serial number to identify the Permit Holder;
- (ii) The registration number of the Vehicle for which the Business Permit was issued;
- (iii) The expiry date of the Business Permit;
- (iv) Authentication that the Business Permit was issued by the Council;
- (v) An indication of the Zone or street in which the Business Permit is valid;
- (vi) Where no paper Business Permit has been issued the registration number of the vehicle on which the Business Permit is being used must be recorded in the Council's Parking Permit Database.

Delete the entire paragraph for:

Article 9.(c)

And replace with:

9. (c) A Visitors Permit shall be in writing, either as a paper permit to display in the vehicle or as written confirmation that it has been recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database, and shall include the following details:

- (i) A unique serial number to identify the Permit Holder;
- (ii) The expiry date of the Visitors Permit;
- (iii) Authentication that the Visitors Permit was issued by the Council;
- (iv) An indication of the Zone or street in which the Visitors Permit is valid;
- (v) where no paper Visitors Permit has been issued the registration number of the vehicle on which the Visitors Permit is being used must be recorded in the Council's Parking Permit Database.

Delete the entire paragraph for:

Article 9.(d)

And replace with:

9. (d) A Visitors Ticket shall be in writing, either as a paper Ticket to display in the vehicle or as written confirmation that it has been recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database, and shall include the following particulars:

- (i) A unique serial number by which the Permit Holder may be identified;
- (ii) The registration number of the Vehicle on which the Visitors Ticket is displayed;
- (iii) The date of use of the Visitors Ticket. A Visitors Ticket shall be valid; from 00:01 to 00:00 on the date of use;
- (iv) Authentication that the Visitors Ticket was issued by the Council;
- (v) An indication of the Zone or street in which the Visitors Ticket is valid;
- (vi) Where no paper Visitors Ticket has been issued the registration number of the vehicle on which the Visitors Ticket is being used must be recorded in the Council's Parking Permit Database.

Where any part of a paper Visitors Ticket requires completion by the person using the Visitors Ticket then those parts requiring completion shall be completed in ink or other permanent medium.

Delete the entire paragraph for:

Article 10.(b) (iii)

And replace with:

10. (b) (iii) the details on the paper Parking Permit or paper Visitors Tickets as described in Article 9 of this Order have been deliberately defaced or altered;

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 10.(b) (v)

And **replace with**:

10. (b) (v) the paper Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket has been displayed or recorded in the Council's Parking Permit Database by anyone who is not an eligible permit holder.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 10.(c)

And **replace with**:

10. (c) A Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket shall only be valid for a Permit Parking Place in the Zone or street shown on the Parking Permit or Visitors Ticket or recorded on the Council's Parking Permit Database

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 10.(d)

And **replace with**:

10. (d) A paper Parking Permit will be valid only if displayed on the vehicle or motorcycle to which the Parking Permit relates in the Relevant Position.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 10.(e)

And **replace with**:

10. (e) A paper Visitors Ticket will be valid only if displayed on a vehicle or motor cycle in the Relevant Position, correctly marked in accordance with the instructions for validation on the front face.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 11.(a)

And **replace with**:

11. (a) If a paper Parking Permit is mutilated or accidentally defaced or the figures or particulars on it have become illegible or the colour of the paper Parking Permit has faded or altered, the Permit Holder shall surrender it to the Council. If the paper Parking Permit is accompanied by an application for a replacement paper Parking Permit, a duplicate paper Parking Permit shall be issued and the original Parking Permit shall become invalid.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 11.(b)

And **replace with**:

11. (b) If a paper Parking Permit is lost or destroyed, the Permit Holder may apply to the Council for the issue of a duplicate. If the Council is satisfied as to the loss or destruction of the paper Parking Permit, a duplicate will be issued, and the original paper Parking Permit shall become immediately invalid. If the original paper Parking Permit is later found or recovered it shall be returned to the Council.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 11.(c)

And replace with:

11. (c) If the holder of a Resident Permit or Business Permit acquires a new vehicle or motorcycle, the Permit Holder shall either make an application for a new paper Parking Permit and the original Parking Permit shall become invalid or update the vehicle's details on the Council's Parking Permit Database and submit documentary evidence of vehicle ownership to the Council. The original paper Parking Permit shall be surrendered to the Council by the Permit Holder.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 11.(d)

And replace with:

11. (d) If paper Visitors Tickets are lost or destroyed, the Permit Holder may apply to the Council for the issue of duplicates. If the Council is satisfied as to the loss or destruction of the paper Visitors Tickets duplicates will be issued, on receipt of a new application and the appropriate fee specified by the Council. This article applies to whole books of paper Visitors Tickets only.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 11.(e)

And replace with:

11. (e) The Council at its discretion may apply an administration charge for the issue of a duplicate paper Parking Permit or duplicate paper Visitors Ticket, such charge not to exceed the original charge for the paper Parking Permit or paper Visitors Ticket replaced.

Delete the entire paragraph for:
Article 12.

And replace with:

12. Where a paper Parking Permit or paper Visitors ticket has been displayed on or attached to a motor vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Order, no person other than the driver of the motor vehicle or a Civil Enforcement Officer shall remove the paper Parking Permit or paper Visitors Tickets from the motor vehicle unless authorised to do so by the driver of the motor vehicle. Where a Business Permit, Visitor Permit or Visitors Ticket has been recorded in the Council's Parking Permit Database as being allocated to a vehicle registration by the Permit Holder, no person other than the Permit Holder or the Council shall alter the vehicle registration.

In Schedule 3 – Permit Charges: **Delete** the content of the row for Visitors Tickets:

And replace with:

Visitors Tickets (10 tickets per book/ allocation on the Council's Parking Permit Database)	Baldock Zones B and D Hitchin Zones A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H and J Knebworth Zone A Letchworth Zones A, B and D Royston Zones A, B and C	£12.00 per book/ allocation on the Council's Parking Permit Database
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3. The interpretation Act 1978 (“the 1978 Act”) shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament. In this Order, unless the contrary intention appears, words and expressions listed in Schedule 1 to the 1978 Act are to be construed according to that Schedule.
4. The restrictions imposed by this Order shall be in addition to and not in derogation from any restriction or requirement imposed by any other regulations made or having effect as if made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act of 1984 or by or under any other enactment.

THE COMMON SEAL OF
THE NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto

affixed this xx day of xx 2024

in the presence of:

Duly Authorised Officer