

NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council

Parking Enforcement Vehicle

Introduction

Northumberland County Council regularly receives complaints about road safety concerns outside of our schools. These can include issues such as speeding, inconsiderate parking and the safety of children accessing school. For many years we have worked with schools and parents as well as local residents however these issues continue to cause growing concern.

Since April 2012 the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers have been carrying out enforcement of school keep clear restrictions and other parking regulations outside schools. In the interim this had a significant positive impact on behaviours of drivers dropping off and collecting children from school. Experience has shown that when officers are in attendance the behaviours of drivers are improved. However when there is no enforcement presence there is a significant decline in safe parking and compliance with the regulations in place.

As part of the measures to deal with the ongoing parking problems more effectively we are introducing a parking enforcement vehicle. The vehicle will monitor the school keep clear restrictions and from information gathered by the camera, any vehicle found to be parked in contravention of the regulations will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) by post.

The vehicle

The parking enforcement vehicle is easily recognisable. As well as displaying the councils logo and camera enforcement logos the vehicle has the 'Be a Smarter Parker' branding which is part of the Schools Go Smarter initiative.



When will enforcement start?

Over the coming weeks we will be delivering a communications programme to help raise awareness of the vehicle. We will work with the local press and social media and will also be working with a number of schools on specific awareness raising and events. There will also be an opportunity for some school children and local stakeholders to look inside the vehicle and learn more about how it will be used to improve road safety.

There will be an initial period of training however it is planned that the vehicle will be fully operational from January 2016.

Timetable

| Date | Milestone |
|----------------------|---|
| 19.10.15 | Enforcement Vehicle delivery |
| 19.10.15 to 21.10.15 | Staff systems and vehicle training |
| 19.10.15 to 30.11.15 | Period of awareness raising with schools, parents, media, residents, police and elected members |
| 26.10.15 to 06.11.15 | Police and press demo |
| 26.10.15 to 31.12.15 | Period of vehicle and route testing |
| 09.11.15 to 30.11.15 | School visits/vehicle demos |

If you require any further information please contact Parking Services via email parkingservices@northumberland.gov.uk or 01670 620220 or visit our web page at parking.northumberland.gov.uk