

Improving Parking in the Leith Central Area (LCA) A resident-led campaign for action



The Challenge

Many of us who live in LCA, much of which is just outside the controlled parking zones of central Edinburgh, experience problems with car parking. For those who own cars, it can be frustrating trying to find a space.

Why is this so when less than half of Leith residents own a car?

LCA has become the parking place of choice for many commuters due to our close proximity to the city centre. The availability of an excellent transport system and free parking has become increasingly attractive to commuters, including some cyclists, tourists and others displaced from nearby controlled parking zones.

This situation can be both frustrating and dangerous with restricted access for emergency vehicles, council services, those with disabilities, trades people and pedestrians.

A Solution

It must be emphasised that, in an area as densely populated as LCA, there is no system that can guarantee a parking space for residents at or near their door. However, there are ways which could improve car parking for residents, reduce congestion and manage access more safely and effectively.

These are the two systems currently operated by the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC):

1. Priority Parking Areas (PPA)

This system involves controlling the kerbside space over a short period during the working day. This works well in residential areas where commuter parking can make it difficult for residents and their visitors to park. The short period of control ensures that commuters cannot leave their vehicles all day, giving priority to permit holding residents. Costs are between £1 and £8 per month, depending on car emissions.

2. Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ)

This is the other system that is in place in Edinburgh. All kerbside space is controlled with a mix of permit parking, pay-and-display and shared-use which accommodates both permit holders and pay-and-display customers.

Costs are between £3 and £20 a month, depending on car emissions.

Further information on these can be found at:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20083/parking_permits. Our zone is N1.

What happens now?

Leith Central Community Council, in collaboration with Abbeyhill Colonies Residents' Association, has set up a petition on the CEC's website.

Please sign the petition if you would like to see changes made to the parking system in the Leith Central Area.

Please remember, parking issues can affect everyone whether you own a vehicle or not.

You can sign the petition here:

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/petitions, select 'Support an existing petition' then 'Improving Parking in LCA.'

Sufficient support will oblige the Council to carry out a survey to identify possible solutions. This is a separate process and you will have further opportunity to comment.

If you do not have access to the internet, you can **phone** or **text 07501586864** and we will arrange for the petition to be signed on your behalf.

Leith Central Community Council, in collaboration with Abbeyhill Colonies Residents' Association.

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