



Cumbria County Council is the highway authority and is responsible for on street parking in most parts of Cumbria. Parking is at a premium throughout most towns and cities in Britain and we understand that different groups have different needs. The aim is to balance these needs and to ensure that parking places are shared fairly amongst all road users.

To do this we operate a disc zone parking scheme which offers motorists free time limited parking in on street areas close to shops and town centre facilities. The objective is to encourage a rapid turnover of available spaces which supports the local economy.

There are signs and road markings in streets indicating that a disc zone parking scheme is in operation and so to obtain on street parking benefits within designated parking bays, the driver must acquire a clock disc, display a time of arrival and adhere to the advertised time limits. Times allowed do vary and so you need to ensure that you set the disc at the correct time and return on or before the expiry time to avoid receiving a Penalty Charge Notice.

To avoid any doubt, only **one** clock disc should be placed on clear display so that it is easily visible to the Civil Enforcement Officers who can validate the time of arrival.

Regardless of whether or not the whole of the initial parking time has been utilised, the vehicle must vacate the particular parking bay and is not allowed to return for the indicated period of time after the original expiry time, hence the term 'No return within 'X' Hour(s)'. For example, in a 'One hour / No return within '1' Hour disc zone bay, if a vehicle was parked and the clock disc was set an arrival time of 10:00, the vehicle must leave the bay by 11:00 and not allowed to re-park in the same bay until after 12:00.

Disc changing where drivers do not move the vehicle and merely alter the time on the clock disc or simply move the vehicle further along the same set of bays is strictly prohibited and is a contravention of highway regulations.

Clock discs can be obtained from Council offices, Civil Enforcement Officers on patrol and some local shops and businesses. Essentially a time of arrival needs to be exhibited and so in the absence of a clock disc, an unaltered handwritten note is acceptable however other handwritten notes eg 'working at premises' will not be accepted.

Drivers should only park if they know the rules and are able to abide them.

Misinterpretation of signage and / or on street regulations does not equate to them being unlawful or misleading and you may need to consider parking elsewhere or, to seek further advice if for whatever reason you are not familiar with the disc zone parking restrictions.

Penalty Charge Notices are only issued when it is deemed a contravention of highway regulations has occurred. If vehicles are parked in accordance with the regulations there is no need for any of the Civil Enforcement Officers to serve a notice, however once issued, each individual charge is assigned a unique reference and pertains to a specific incident. In this event, you will need to refer to the options and procedures indicated on the reverse of the Penalty Charge Notice.