

DRAFT PARKING STANDARDS SPD PUBLIC CONSULTATION 12TH AUGUST TO 7TH OCTOBER 2015

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the consultation about?

Milton Keynes Council is consulting on a new guidance document that sets out revised parking standards (ie how many parking spaces are required) for all types of new development. The parking standards will apply to the whole of the Milton Keynes area.

Following the public consultation, the Council will adopt the new parking standards as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and they will be used when assessing planning applications for new development.

Why have new parking standards been produced?

The current parking standards were adopted in 2005, with an update to the residential parking standards added in 2009. The current standards are therefore old and need to be revised to take account of the latest Government guidance and also to respond to our experience of parking in new developments over the last 10 years.

How do the new Draft Parking Standards differ from the existing ones?

The Draft Parking Standards reflect the guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that advises local authorities setting standards to take into account the accessibility, type, mix and use of the development as well as the availability of public transport, local car ownership levels and the need to reduce use of high-emission vehicles.

The new standards cater for electric vehicles, provides guidance on the size and layout of parking spaces and amends sections of the adopted Residential Design Guide SPD relating to the design of residential parking spaces.

The new Draft Standards break the Use Classes down into finer detail than is currently done. Revised standards are provided for:

- A3/A4/A5 (food and drink) uses
- B1 Business
- C2 Residential institutions - separate standards for hospitals with different requirement for in-patient and out-patient care. Student accommodation has new standards.
- C2A Secure Residential Institution – to be assessed case by case
- C3 Dwellinghouses – revised standards by Zone and number of bedrooms.
- C4 Houses in Multiple Occupation. Zonal approach retained and formula introduced for Zone B
- D1 Non-residential institutions The D1 uses are broken down further in the SPD as they each have different parking requirements:

- D1a Medical or health (non-residential) – new standards
- D1b Creche, Nursery - advice on shared use of parking for drop-off
- D1c Education Establishments - new standards reflecting 2011 Census information; increased drop-off requirement.
- D1 d/e/f/g Art Gallery/Museum/Library/Public Hall – new standards based on benchmarking with other local authorities
- D1h Place of Worship, Seated Assembly - standards based on experience and approach of other local authorities
- D2 Assembly and leisure – added standard for swimming pool, sports hall and gym based on local authority benchmarking.
- Sui Generis –new standard added for Theatres.

In Section 4, Parking for Residential Uses, there is now a presumption against tandem parking (or on-plot parking arrangements where the spaces are not independently accessible for example where one space is behind the other). Should a tandem layout be proposed then the guidance seeks an additional, convenient, on-street parking space at the rate of 1 space per every two dwellings that do not have independently accessible on-plot parking.

In Section 7, Other Vehicle and Parking Layouts, a degree of flexibility for non-residential spaces in specific circumstances is proposed to be introduced to allow for some spaces to be a minimum of 2.3 metres wide, narrower than the expected width of 2.5 metres.

Does the consultation address the cost of car parking, for example in CMK?

No. The cost and pricing structure of car parking in CMK and other town centres is not relevant to this consultation as it is a separate traffic management issue.

The Parking Standards SPD shows how many parking standards are needed for all types of development and includes guidance as to the design and layout of parking spaces, especially in residential areas.

To whom is the consultation relevant?

Once adopted, the Parking Standards will determine the amount, location and design of parking for new developments. They will therefore have an effect on most people and organisations in the Milton Keynes area, but are likely to be of particular interest to:

- Developers and architects who will need to reflect the requirements of the SPD in the design and layout of their new developments
- Milton Keynes Councillors, especially those on Development Control Committee when considering planning applications
- Parish and Town Councils (especially when considering and making comments on new development)
- Interest groups, especially those interested in transport and travel.
- Residents who will occupy homes planned using the new standards and existing householders who want to extend their home as any additional bedrooms could result in the need for an extra parking space.

How do I take part in the consultation?

The Draft Parking Standards SPD is out for consultation from Wednesday 12th August to 5pm on Wednesday 7th October 2015.

A copy of the Draft SPD is available on the Milton Keynes Council website at:

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/parking-standards

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/consultations

Paper copies of the Draft SPD are also available to read in the libraries across Milton Keynes.

Who do I send my comments to?

The Draft SPD has been prepared for Milton Keynes Council by consultants, the Project Centre and they will be receiving the comments in the first instance.

Comments can be made either by email or by post to the following address:

By email to: mkparkingstandards@projectcentre.co.uk

By post to: Project Centre
38 Foundry Street
Brighton
BN1 4AT

COMMENTS NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY 5PM ON WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER, 2015.

What happens next?

Following the end of the public consultation all comments received will be considered and changes made to the Draft SPD. Cabinet will then take the decision to adopt the new parking standards as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) after which they will be used when assessing planning applications for new development.