

Care Worker Parking Permits for Residential Parking Zones **Terms and Conditions of use**

Somerset County Council (SCC): Parking Services

Please read these Terms and Conditions carefully before completing the online application.

Defined Terms:

'Somerset Care Provider' means an organisation, either the NHS or registered with the Care Quality Commission, providing homecare services or healthcare visits to clients who reside in resident's parking zones in Somerset. Somerset Care Providers may be providing care or health services to local authorities or other public bodies, or to private clients. The Authority will maintain a list of such organisations. Within this broad definition, the Authority will retain discretion as to which organisations are included on the list.

'Care worker's vehicle' means a vehicle used by an employee or worker to travel to and from the residence of a client who resides in resident's parking zones in Somerset to carry out services in the course of business of a Somerset Care Provider.

'The Authority' means Somerset County Council or its agent: Chipside Ltd (Registered Office: Unit 7 Callow Park, Callow Hill, Brinkworth, Wiltshire, SN15 5FD – Company Registration No. 04049461).

1. Conditions of use:

- a) Care worker vehicles holding a valid SCC Care Worker Permit will be permitted to park, for a maximum of two hours, within Resident's Parking Zones only when the vehicle is being used to visit a property whilst undertaking a homecare/medical visit. Details of valid permits are held on the Parking Civil Enforcement Officer's hand-held computer.
- b) A Care Worker Permit does not permit a care worker's vehicle to park:
 - i. In any resident's zone when the vehicle is not being used to visit a property whilst undertaking a homecare/medical visit.
 - ii. For more than two hours
 - iii. In any off-street car park without charge, at any time. Care workers must ensure they pay for off-street parking in the normal way.
 - iv. On any yellow line restrictions – Care workers are not exempt from yellow line restrictions and must not contravene them, regardless of whether a Care Worker Permit is displayed.
 - v. For longer than the permitted waiting time in a limited waiting bay. Care workers are not exempt from the time limits shown on the signs.
 - vi. In any part of any resident's zone where parking has been temporarily suspended for any reason.
- c) Permits are valid for a year from the date of issue. An email renewal reminder will be sent 4 weeks prior to the expiry date, and it will be the responsibility of the Somerset Care Provider to ensure permits are renewed prior to expiry (a recently expired permit shall not be deemed to be grounds for overturning any Penalty Charge Notice issued).
- d) Failure to comply with any aspect of these Terms and Conditions of use may result in the serving of a Penalty Charge Notice to a care worker's vehicle.

2. Responsibilities of Somerset Care Providers in respect of Care Worker Permits.

Somerset Care Providers must:-

- a) Maintain records of planned and unplanned care and health visits by staff issued with Care Workers Permits, and provide copies of such records on request by the Authority so that the Authority may carry out spot checks to ensure Care Worker Permits are being used in line with these Terms and Conditions.
- b) Maintain records of virtual permits held by staff, including vehicle registration numbers, and ensure that permits are cancelled, or amended, by the Somerset Care Provider when an employee leaves their job or changes their vehicle. Where the Authority has reasonable grounds to believe that permits are being used by vehicles which are not owned by employees of the care provider, the Authority may suspend issuing Care Worker Permits to that care provider.
- c) Ensuring that Care Worker Permits are renewed prior to the expiry date.
- d) Take reasonable steps to ensure that staff holding virtual Care Worker Permits, only use them to park when carrying out bona fide visits. Providers will be expected to take disciplinary action with employees in the event that a spot check identifies any misuse of a Care Worker Permit – failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the permit by the Authority (which the Authority reserves the right to do at any time).
- e) Confirm acceptance of these Terms and Conditions when applying for a Care Worker Permit.

3. Eligibility:

- a) Care Worker Permits are available to any Somerset Care Provider, provided that the Authority (acting reasonably) considers that such an organisation is a competent and available
- b) There is no limit to the number of Care Worker Permits that may be issued to each Somerset Care Provider; however the Authority reserves the right to impose a reasonable limit at its discretion.

4. Charges and process for application:

- a) A charge of £10 will be made for each Care Worker Permit. Payment must be made online by credit or debit card when making the application.
- b) Applications for Care Worker Permits can only be made online at <https://secure.mipermit.com/somerset/> Vehicle Registration Marks for care worker vehicles must be included on the application.

5. Duration of scheme

Once issued, a Care Worker Permit will be valid until the expiry date in any event. The Authority will review the scheme regularly and may terminate the scheme at any time. In the event of such a termination, any existing Care Worker Permits in issue would remain valid until the expiry date; however no new Care Worker Permits would be issued.

For queries about the online application contact:

Apply online at: <https://secure.mipermit.com/somerset/>

Telephone enquiries: 0345 520 7007

Email: contact@mipermit.com

For queries about the Care Worker Permit scheme contact:

Telephone enquiries: 0300 124 2224

Email: parking@somerset.gov.uk