



Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Alex Norris MP

*Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for
Building Safety, Fire and Local Growth*
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Florence Eshalomi MP
Chair
Housing, Communities and Local Government
Committee
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11 July 2025

Dear Florence,

I am pleased to inform you that we have today published [the Private Parking Code of Practice consultation](#). The consultation sets out the Government's proposals and seeks views for raising standards across the private parking industry. This consultation will inform the preparation of a Code of Practice and compliance framework for private parking operators.

The private parking industry plays an important role in supporting our local economies and high streets. But, as you are acutely aware, we continue to hear reports of poor behaviour by parking operators that make it difficult for motorists to comply with the terms and conditions and leave them open to parking charges and escalating costs.

The proposals we are announcing today will deliver on the Government's legal obligation in the Parking (Code of Practice) Act 2019 to lay a Code. That obligation has not been fulfilled by successive administrations, but we are determined to do so. The proposals seek to raise standards to better protect and support motorists who make every effort comply with the carpark's terms and conditions, thereby allowing motorists to park without fear of receiving a parking charge whilst balancing the legitimate needs of operators to run their car parks in a way that benefits all motorists.

The consultation covers issues including signage, the duration of the parking period including consideration periods and grace periods, the design and language of parking charge notices and the handling of complaints. It also seeks views on the levels at which parking charges and debt recovery fees should be capped. The current industry cap for parking charges is £100, with a 40% discount for early payment, whilst the cap for debt recovery fees is £70. The consultation seeks views on the retention of the existing £100 parking charge cap, and on the appropriate level for the current £70 debt recovery fee cap. It also, importantly, proposes new data collection requirements for private parking operators and trade associations, which will build a stronger evidence base to inform any future changes to the Code.

We are consulting on improvements to the second-stage appeals service that motorists can use if they are not satisfied with a parking operator's response to their first appeal. We also plan to produce non-statutory Government guidance for motorists. This will provide clear and easy to understand information to inform the motorist of their options throughout the process once a parking charge has been issued.

Alongside the Code, we propose a transparent and robust framework for ensuring compliance with the Code. The compliance framework comprises an independent Scrutiny and Oversight Board and a United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) approved Certification Scheme to oversee the compliance of private parking operators with the Code. This means that the parking industry will no longer be enforcing its own standards, and this will improve public perception of private car parks as well as ensuring fairness for motorists.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

ALEX NORRIS MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Building Safety, Fire and Local Growth