

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council



Disabled Parking Bay

Local Policies



Appendix 1

Main Criteria

All Disabled Parking Bay applicants must:

- be a valid Blue Badge holder with at least one year remaining **and**
- they must receive either the Higher Rate Mobility component of DLA, **or**
- War Disablement Pensioners Mobility Supplement **or**
- be aged 65 or over.

Aged 65 and Over

All applicants who meet the criteria for a Disabled Parking Bay due to being 65 or over but are not the vehicle driver will be referred to Social Services for an assessment on their mobility. This assessment will test whether the applicant has a mobility difficulty that is likely to qualify them for the Higher Rate Mobility component of DLA.

No Social Worker

If an applicant does not have a Social worker and therefore details of their mobility are unobtainable, information will be requested from their GP. If the applicant refuses to allow the Council to gain this information the application will be refused.

Non Vehicle Drivers

If an applicant is not a vehicle driver they will be assessed by the Social Services or their GP to confirm if they can be left alone whilst the driver parks the vehicle due to the nature of their mobility. This assessment will test the applicants safety and verify if they would be a risk to themselves or others if left unattended.

Vehicle

All Disabled Parking Bay applicants must have a vehicle registered to their address unless **Carers and Care Homes** applies.

Carers and Care Homes

If a vehicle is registered to the care homes address or to a service user at that address, 1 disabled bay will be to be put down provided all other criteria is met.

Parking Problems

All Disabled Parking Bay applicants must have a regular parking problem where in the opinion of the investigator there is proven difficulty in parking in the vicinity of the applicant's property. A Council Officer will endeavour to investigate the on street parking difficulties in an evening mid week unless an alternative has been specified. In this instance the Council will attempt to comply with the request.

Appendix 1

Driveway or Garage

All applicants who have a driveway or a garage will automatically be refused unless their garage is situated some distance from their property. These applications will be assessed by the Social Services or their GP to confirm if their mobility affects the distance they can travel in order to gain access to the garage without causing severe discomfort or needing help from another person.

Blind

Whilst these applicants do not necessarily have a mobility problem these applicants will be assessed by the Social Services or their GP to see if they can be left alone whilst the driver parks the vehicle. This assessment will look at the safety of the applicant and verify if they would be a risk to themselves or others if left unattended.

Children Aged 2-3

A child aged 2 qualifies for a Blue Badge but does not qualify for Higher Rate Mobility component of DLA until they reach the age of 3. As these applicants are not the vehicle drivers they will be assessed by the Social Services or their GP. This assessment will test whether the applicant has a mobility difficulty that is likely to qualify them for the Higher Rate Mobility component of DLA.

Application Refusal

Disabled Bays are issued under the authority of the Parking Services Manager in accordance with Council Policy. Should the application be refused due to failure to meet the Councils criteria, only if circumstances change will a new application form be considered.

Mitigating Circumstances

Whilst these policies cover most potential issues arising as part of the application process, the Council reserve the right to consider mitigating circumstances.

Misuse of Disabled Parking Bay

The Council reserves the right to withdraw any Disabled Parking Bays where they feel the applicant is misusing the facility.