

# Disabled Parking Policy



# BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## DISABLED PARKING POLICY

### Introduction

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council is committed to promoting Disability Access and providing equality of opportunity for disabled people in the services that it provides. The Council aims to ensure that disabled people and carers have access to services in the same way as non-disabled people.

The Disability Discrimination Act 2005 (DDA) : -

“Makes it unlawful for the Council to discriminate against a disabled person in carrying out its functions”.

### Aim of the policy

It is the aim of this policy to protect the rights of Disabled people and allow them access to **disabled bays** when visiting or working at Council owned buildings. Also it is aimed at bringing to an end **inconsiderate parking e.g. parking on pavements or in front of drop kerbs**. This form of thoughtless parking not only impacts upon wheelchair users, blind people with assistance dogs and other disabled people but can also impact upon parents with young children in pushchairs.

This policy will instigate procedures that will take action against the improper use of the Council's designated parking bays, where they exist, and inconsiderate parking at the following Council properties:

- Civic Centre
- Anvil Court
- Monusk
- Baldwin House
- Festival House
- Bridge Street
- All other Social Services Offices, Day Centres, Training Unit, Residential homes etc (where bays exist)
- Learning Action Centres
- District Offices
- Leisure Centres
- Theatres ( Metropole, Beaufort, Abertillery)
- Registry Office Tredegar
- Business Resource Centre, Tafarnaubach
- Any Business Units that have disabled bays.

## **Council responsibilities**

The Council has a duty to provide access to services for members of the public, Elected Members and access to work for staff that are disabled Blue Badge holders.

- This policy is targeted at Disabled bays that are not the subject of an official order and are, therefore, not under the control of the Police, Traffic Warden or Police Community Support Officers.
- In order for Staff and Elected Members to park in the designated parking bays they would need to display an official Blue Badge as they would be required to do in a

Police/ warden controlled disabled bay or be in possession of a Council issued staff parking permit that would be issued upon medical evidence being disclosed and accepted.

- Inconsiderate parking is also an issue that needs addressing and will fall under the same reporting procedure as Disabled bay abuse.

### **Employees and Elected Members responsibility**

- All employees and Elected Members of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council are expected to ensure that Disabled Bays are kept free for the use of disabled members of the public and employees and do not park inconsiderately, in keeping with the spirit of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005
- A key responsibility for all employees stated in all job descriptions is as follows;

“To adhere to the principles of the Corporate Equalities Policy and ensure commitment to anti-discriminatory practice.

- If employees are aware of colleagues parking in bays or parking in an inconsiderate way then they are to report the matter to the Senior Officer in the building concerned in order that the appropriate action can be taken.

### **Action in respect of non-compliance**

- The first instance of failing to follow this policy will result in an e mail or letter being sent to the individual making them

aware of their non compliance and that this is unacceptable and will not be tolerated by the Council.

- For any subsequent breach of the policy the individual will be dealt with under the Council's Disciplinary Procedure, and for Elected Members, the Members Code of Conduct.

### **Review of policy**

This policy will be reviewed annually in line with the Disability Equality Scheme annual report.

**Human Resources Division**

**Date of Approval**

**Date of Review**