



REQUEST 17705

1. How many designated disabled parking bays are currently available within your council area?
2. How many active Blue Badge holders are currently registered within your council area?
3. How many Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) have been issued for the misuse of disabled parking bays in each of the last 3 calendar years (2022, 2023, 2024)?
4. What is the total revenue generated from fines related to Blue Badge misuse in each of the last 3 calendar years (2022, 2023, 2024)? These offences might include but are not limited to using a fake blue badge, using an out-of-date one etc.
5. What is the total revenue generated from fines related to drivers parking in a bay without a blue badge in each of the last 3 calendar years (2022, 2023, 2024)?
6. Please share the total number of Blue Badge permit (a) renewal applications and (b) new applications in each of the last 3 calendar years (2022, 2023, 2024). Please specify how many of these were rejected and, if possible, for what reason.
7. Of all the Blue Badge parking permits that are currently valid within your area, how many are for (a) visible and (b) non-visible disabilities.

RESPONSE

1. Information held for off-street car park spaces only – Please follow these links within the Wigan Council website [Wigan car parks](#) and [Leigh car parks](#) to see the car parks map. Please click on the blue 'P' within the map to gain information regarding the number of spaces available.
2. As at 18th March 2025, we have 23,262 active Blue Badge holders in Wigan area. Please note this figure is for individuals and does not include organisation badges.
3. Number PCN's issued on-street (contravention code 40) and off- street (contravention code 87)
2022 – 809 / 33
2023 – 934 / 31
2024 – 1170 / 22
4. and 5. Unfortunately this is not something that can be broken down further into separate categories.

Total amount PCN's paid from the above contraventions:

2022 – £26031 / £1120

2023 – £30295 / £875

2024 – £29300 / £490

6. Data below. Refused applications are deleted after 12 months under our retention policy so the information regarding refused applications is not available prior to 2024

		TOTAL	REFUSED
2022	RENEWAL	3668	Not available
	NEW	4419	Not available
2023	RENEWAL	3328	Not available
	NEW	5013	Not available
2024	RENEWAL	4221	109
	NEW	6338	1070

We are unable to specify the reason why an application has been refused without examining each individual application as we do not hold the information in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations. The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the “appropriate limit”). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link:-

http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA. I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and will explain why this is the case

This would take an estimated 3 minutes per application to locate, load, examine and collate, which would take over 58 hours to compile and would exceed the limits permitted under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

7. As at 18th March 2025, of the 23,262 active Blue Badge holders in Wigan area, (a) 22,054 and (b) 1,208