



Instalment Plan Policy for Penalty Charge Notices (PCN's)

The council has made a decision not to allow payment of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) by instalment for the following reasons:-

- The cost of administering the system: officers spent a disproportionate amount of time arranging instalments plans, monitoring payments and chasing late payments;
- Many customers who had been allowed instalment plans failed to adhere to them;
- Only short term instalments could be allowed to keep within the statutory PCN timescales;
- The legislation under which parking enforcement is undertaken, the Traffic Management Act 2004, clearly states that in order for a case to be closed, full payment must be made within certain timescales. This legislation does not provide the motorist with the opportunity to settle a case over any period of time other than that stated within the legislation. It is the Council's experience that those seeking instalment plans wish to do so over a longer period than could be allowed under this Act;
- Payment arrangements could not be allowed during the discounted period as legislation states that the discounted period only lasts for 14 days; and
- A PCN is a penalty issued to deter motorists from parking in contravention of the regulations/restrictions. The deterrent may be compromised if small repayments, or long term payment arrangements, are accepted in settlement of such notices.