

Briefing for the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee on PE1962: Stop motorhomes parking overnight outwith formal campsites, caravan parks and Aires, submitted by Lynn & Darren Redfern

Background

- Motorhomes should only park on privately owned land with the permission of the landowner.
- Overnight motorhome parking in local authority owned off-street car parks is normally prohibited. Any such prohibition will be set out in the Designation Order, which establishes the rules governing how individual car parks can be used.
- Overnight motorhome car parking in privately owned off-street car parks is allowed at the discretion of the car park owner.
- Overnight motorhome parking in roadside lay-bys is not specifically prohibited unless a Traffic Regulation Order banning such parking in designated lay-by(s) is in force.
- Overnight motorhome parking at the roadside is not specifically prohibited. However, a police officer can require a driver to move a vehicle causing an obstruction to other road users.
- Rule 156 of the Highway Code states “Do not park in passing places” which must be kept clear so vehicles travelling in opposite directions on single track roads can pass.
- Permits are required for motorhome parking in several areas of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs national park between 1st March and 30th September.
- It is an offence to dump sewage waste, including the waste from chemical toilets, into the natural environment.

Scottish Government Action

In 2021 and 2022 Forestry and Land Scotland, the Scottish Government agency responsible for managing Scotland’s national forests and land, allowed motorhomes to stay overnight, during summer months, in selected forest car parks as part of its [Stay the Night](#) pilot project.

Scottish Parliament Action

The Scottish Parliament has not previously considered a formal prohibition on overnight motorhome parking outwith designated areas.

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