



# The Alliance of British Drivers

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## Press Release – ABD London Region

For immediate release

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### Barnet Parking Charges Defeated

Today in the High Court, the challenge from a group of local residents to the massive rises in permit parking charges imposed by Barnet Council was upheld. The Alliance of British Drivers (ABD) welcomes this decision.

The increases in parking charges were declared unlawful by Justice Beverley Lang who upheld past precedents which said that the relevant Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 does not enable councils to raise money from permit parking charges to subsidise other programmes. Namely that the Act is not a fiscal measure and cannot be used to raise general taxation. It can only be used to finance traffic regulation and the operation of permit parking schemes.

ABD spokesperson Roger Lawson had this to say: *"It is clear that London boroughs have been in the vanguard of using parking charges to fill gaps in council budgets. There is no reason why residents who are forced to pay for parking permits should have to cross-subsidise other council expenditure, and in this case they were acting outside the law. I hope this will lead to challenges in other London boroughs who have been pursuing the same tactics. Our congratulations to David Attfield and his supporters for taking a stand on this issue"*.

More information is available from the Barnet CPZ Action web site at:

<http://barnetcpz.blogspot.co.uk/>

### Contact

For more information on this issue and the general increases in parking charges being imposed by London councils, contact Roger Lawson on 020-8295-0378.

## **About The Alliance of British Drivers (ABD)**

The Alliance of British Drivers was formed from a merger between the Association of British Drivers and the Drivers Alliance. The ABD is the leading independent organisation which represents the interests of private motorists in the United Kingdom. We campaign to protect the rights of individual road users and believe that road transport is a beneficial and essential element in the UK transport infrastructure. We oppose excessive taxation of motorists and are against tolls and road usage charging. We also campaign for more enlightened road safety policies. The Alliance is a "not for profit" voluntary organisation which is financially supported primarily by its individual members. More information on the ABD is available from our web site at [www.freedomfordrivers.org](http://www.freedomfordrivers.org)

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