

London Borough of Bexley

News Release

For Immediate Release

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STAMPING OUT BLUE BADGE MISUSE

Enforcement action is being intensified in on-street parking locations and Council operated car parks throughout Bexley to put a stop to Blue Badge misuse.

In a new campaign, relatives and friends are being warned that if they are caught misusing a Blue Badge, even to run an errand on behalf of the badge holder, their actions could lead to a criminal conviction.

"We would urge blue badge holders to be certain that their badge is being used correctly on each and every occasion and only when they are present, if they are not the driver," said a spokesman for the London Borough of Bexley. "Any driver considering misusing a badge should be warned that by doing so, they are committing a criminal act and could face the consequences in court.

"Please help us to protect the Blue Badge scheme for genuine badge holders by reporting misuse to the Council."

Only disabled persons are entitled to make use of the parking concessions provided under the Blue Badge scheme. Motorists and badge holders are being strongly advised to familiarise themselves with the scheme's rules and to check potential local rules if parking in another borough. The badge should only be displayed when the disabled person is travelling in the vehicle as a driver or passenger, or to park nearby to pick up or drop off a disabled person.

Blue Badge misuse is a criminal offence which can lead to a £1,000 fine and confiscation of the badge. A Blue Badge is the property of

the issuing authority and should be returned to that authority when expired, or no longer required.

Anyone who has information or concerns about Blue Badge misuse can report it online at www.bexley.gov.uk/reportbluebadge or call in confidence on 020 8313 4800.

For further information, visit www.bexley.gov.uk/parking

'ENDS'

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