

Review of Regional Car Parking Standards

Below is an explanation of the three Area Accessibility Categories as identified by the consultants Mouchel in the final parking standards report. The purpose of the three categories is to broadly group different areas according to their general levels of accessibility. It is accepted that, in comparison, accessibility in areas within Manchester and Liverpool city centres, for example, are significantly higher than in the centres of regional towns and cities. The proposed parking standards do not attempt to categorise every individual location in the region. Each local authority, while implementing standards, will divide all areas within their boundaries into the three Area Accessibility Categories. Therefore, local authorities will need to decide on the boundaries between different areas such as where the city centres finish and where the suburbs and wider urban areas begin.

Area Accessibility Categories

Area Accessibility Category	Locations
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ City and town centres in metropolitan areas,▪ Regional town and city centres
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Non-metropolitan key service centre town centres▪ District or local centres in metropolitan areas▪ District or local centres in regional towns and cities.
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ All other areas

Area Accessibility Category A includes the main metropolitan city centres (i.e. Liverpool and Manchester), the town centres in metropolitan areas (e.g. Bolton and Stockport town centres) and regional town and city centres (e.g. Crewe town centre and Preston city centre).

Area Accessibility Category B includes the town centres within non-metropolitan Key Service Centres (e.g. Wilmslow and Ormskirk); together with District or local centres in metropolitan areas and in regional towns and cities (i.e. not the main town or city centres but those serving local areas and neighbourhoods).

Area Accessibility Category C includes all other development areas within the settlement hierarchy ranging from the urban area and suburbs in metropolitan areas and those in regional towns and cities to villages and rural and remote rural areas.