

FINE DISCREPANCIES

# Park tickets sting more in the city

■ Kate Emery

WA motorists are being hit with parking fines that vary by up to \$190 depending on where they are caught.

Motorists breaking the rules in inner-city streets are likely to be stung with higher fines than those who park illegally in more remote suburbs, even those in popular shopping and tourist precincts.

Inconsistencies between neighbouring councils means someone parking illegally on one street could be fined twice as much as if they parked illegally in another part of the street.

Parking contrary to a no stopping sign during a restricted period on Beaufort Street north of Newcastle Street, for example, can incur a fine of \$270 under the City of Vincent's local laws.

The same offence on Beaufort Street south of Newcastle Street, which is City of Perth territory, would attract a \$120 fine.

In the City of Fremantle, the fine for the same offence is \$80.

Similarly, a motorist caught parking on the footpath would pay \$80 in Fremantle, \$90 in the City of Subiaco, \$120 in Perth and \$150 in Vincent, jumping to \$160 next month when a rise in fines approved by that council comes into force.

WHAT WILL ILLEGAL PARKING COST YOU?

Offence	City of Vincent*	City of Perth	City of Subiaco	City of Fremantle	City of Melbourne	City of Sydney
Park contrary to signs	\$60	\$50	\$55	\$50	\$28	\$99
Fail to display valid permit	\$95	\$100	\$75	\$55	\$85	\$99
Stop at no stopping sign	\$135	\$120	\$90	\$80	\$141	\$232
Stop at no stopping sign (restricted period)	\$270	\$120	N/A**	\$80	\$141	\$232
Park on private land without consent	\$135	\$100	\$90	\$55	\$85	\$99
Park on footpath/crossing	\$160	\$120	\$90	\$80	\$85	\$99
Unlawful use of loading zone	\$95	\$100	\$60	\$55	\$141	\$165

\* Figures reflect infringements that will come into effect in August  
\*\* No comparable offence

WA Local Government Association president Troy Pickard said councils had autonomy to decide on appropriate penalties for breaking local laws.

"WALGA is unaware of the specific considerations that councils take into account in relation to parking infringements," he said.

"However, it is common for the level of penalty in a local law to reflect the need to impose a suitable deterrent based on the local government's knowledge of how particular actions affect their community."

Mr Pickard said he did not believe there was a need for more

consistency across council boundaries.

Minutes from the Vincent council meeting, where an increase in fines was discussed, noted that parking within the authority's boundaries was a finite resource facing growing demand and penalties needed to be high to deter illegal parking.

Figures presented to the council also showed how some WA councils stacked up to Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney.

Melbourne was the cheapest city in which to get caught parking illegally and Sydney the most consistent in charging \$99 for most offences.

## When push comes to shove, it's diamonds

■ Jessica Wilkinson

After Kim Kardashian gave birth to baby North, Kanye West gave her a diamond ring reported to be valued at \$770,000 as a push present to mark the occasion.

Jay-Z got wife Beyonce a blue tanzanite ring after the birth of their daughter.

With the Duchess of Cambridge due to give birth any day, there is speculation as to what Prince William will be getting his wife as her first push present.

Solid Gold Jewellers director Brooke Greene believes it will be something less Kardashian inspired and a little more understated.

"I would say Kate will receive something private and sentimental, maybe a small diamond band," she said.

Etiquette expert Louise Percy said the push gift had been around for decades.

"In earlier times, it was usual for the husband to give the wife an eternity ring after the birth of their first child," she said.

Stirling mother Pirette Lloyd received a diamond band to match her wedding ring after the birth of her first son Hudson.

Five weeks off the birth of her second baby, Ms Lloyd is dropping hints as to what diamonds she would like this time.

"I'd like a pair of studs for this one," she said.



Birth present: Pirette Lloyd shows off her diamond gift. Picture: Bill Hatto

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