

For the Public Meeting on Thursday September 3rd, 2026

I speak on behalf of the St John Street Area Residents' Association to oppose the extension of eligibility for residents' visitors permits to student rooms in the St John St and Pusey Lane properties. This is a matter of great concern to residents as many of us have no off-street parking and so depend entirely on spaces on the street. The allocation of 25 (or potentially 50) permits to each of 70 or so student rooms would completely overwhelm the available on-street spaces and make the situation impossible for us.

In addition:

- there is evidently an online market for surplus visitors permits, and any not used by the students themselves will very likely be sold on in this way.
- The availability of on-street parking in St John Street is already compromised by contractors/trades vehicles associated with the university and the local colleges; so that a recent exercise to replace lamp standards in the street was able to access only two of the scheduled six, notwithstanding residents having moved their own vehicles as requested.
- It has not been policy to extend eligibility to rooms in College/University student accommodation. If this policy is to change, given that there must be some 10,000 such across the city (plus many more at Brookes), the result would be complete chaos.

John Landers
Chair, St John St Areas Residents' Association