



Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date: 18th February 2025

Ref: FOI 2025/057

Dear,

I write in connection with your original request for information dated 14th January 2025 (clarification received on 22nd January 2025) concerning targeted roadside checks.

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to handle all requests in a manner that is blind as to the identity and motives of the requestor. Any information released as a response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

1. The total number of targeted roadside checks for vehicle licence information carried out by your Police Force in 2022, 2023 and 2024?

Year	2022	2023	2024
Number of targeted roadside checks on cars for vehicle licences			

2. The total number of vehicles issued with fines by the Police off the back of targeted roadside checks for vehicle licencing in 2022, 2023 and 2024?

Year	2022	2023	2024
Number of fines issued for incorrect driving licence information			

3. The reasons for, and number of fines issued to owners as a result of targeted roadside checks (eg: incorrect information, licence being out of date etc)?

Reason / year	2022	2023	2024

4. What are the total costs to vehicle drivers for fines issued per year by your Police Force?

Total costs / year	2022	2023	2024

Clarification requested: By vehicle licence information, are you referring to driving licence data, vehicle tax data and/or something else?

It would be driving licence data please.

Our response:

The information that you are requesting (for namely question 1) is not stored in a way which permits easy retrieval. This is because it is not entirely clear what is meant by "targeted" roadside checks, and therefore, if by "targeted roadside checks for licence" you are referring to the number of times vehicles have been pulled over and dealt with for various reasons, the only way in which we would be able to ascertain this data accurately would be to peruse all stop-checks carried out, to see if it relates to that of a vehicle being pulled over, as well as manually trawling through all driving licence enquiries carried out over the last 3 years.

Therefore, under the circumstances I am absolutely confident that to locate, retrieve and extract the information you seek would by far exceed the time obligations upon this authority to comply, and in so doing would exceed the fees limits. This is set at £450 calculated at a flat rate of £25 per hour for those work activities comprising of confirming the information is held, locating it, retrieving it and extracting it.

Please note, that if one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is due to the fact that locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations.

Although excess cost removes the forces' obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved

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or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request. What I am able to provide you are the answers documented below –

2. The total number of vehicles issued with fines by the Police off the back of targeted roadside checks for vehicle licencing in 2022, 2023 and 2024?

Please note, that the number of notices issued below have not been issued off the back of “targeted” roadside checks, they are as a result of checks deemed necessary and proportionate to carry out, as part of typical policing duties.

Notice Issued between 01/01/2022 00:00:00 and 01/01/2023 00:00:00

Offence Code	Offence Description	Number of Notices Issued (Fixed Penalty Notices / Traffic Offence Reports)	Niche Offences (offences that went to Court)
RT88139	Drive a motor vehicle on a road after revocation of driving licence	0	21
	Total	0	21
RT88334	Drive a motor vehicle otherwise than in accordance with a licence - endorsable offence	76	442
	Total	76	442
RT88507	Drive a motor vehicle otherwise than in accordance with a licence - non-endorsable offence	10	39
	Total	10	39
Total		86	502

Notice Issued between 01/01/2023 00:00:00 and 01/01/2024 00:00:00

Offence Code	Offence Description	Number of Notices Issued (Fixed Penalty Notices / Traffic Offence Reports)	Niche Offences (offences that went to Court)
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RT88139	Drive a motor vehicle on a road after revocation of driving licence	0	18
	Total	0	18
RT88334	Drive a motor vehicle otherwise than in accordance with a licence - endorsable offence	126	509
	Total	126	509
RT88507	Drive a motor vehicle otherwise than in accordance with a licence - non-endorsable offence	22	57
	Total	22	57
Total		148	584

**Notice Issued between 01/01/2024
00:00:00 and 01/01/2025 00:00:00**

Offence Code	Offence Description	Number of Notices Issued (Fixed Penalty Notices / Traffic Offence Reports)	Niche Offences (offences that went to Court)
RT88139	Drive a motor vehicle on a road after revocation of driving licence	0	12
	Total	0	12
RT88334	Drive a motor vehicle otherwise than in accordance with a licence - endorsable offence	112	388
	Total	112	388
RT88507	Drive a motor vehicle otherwise than in accordance with a licence -	18	39

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	non-endorsable offence		
	Total	18	39
Total		130	439

Please note, that the Court process level may still increase over time as our Justice Traffic department are still inputting Court hearing cases for 2024. Also, some of the data will appear in both columns because if the driver does not comply with the Conditional Officer of a Fixed Penalty Notice, then either we would put it to Court, or the individual will request for a Court hearing.

3. The reasons for, and number of fines issued to owners as a result of targeted roadside checks (eg: incorrect information, licence being out of date etc)?

Please refer to the tables above which detail the offence codes and descriptions. As previously mentioned, the number of notices issued in the tables above have not been issued off the back of "targeted" roadside checks but are as a result of checks deemed necessary and proportionate to carry out, as part of typical policing duties. To assist you further with this question, please see the following additional information pertaining to the offence codes which you may find useful:

- The offence codes RT88139 are due to licences being revoked/refused by the DVLA and the driver still driving.
- The offence code RT88334 are where a driver does not hold a valid licence at all or that they are the holder of a provisional licence and not driving under provisional licence conditions (e.g.: without L plates and or supervision), or that they do not hold the correct entitlement to drive the vehicle they were seen driving.
- The offence code RT88507 is for when a driver has had their licence revoked by the DVLA, or it has expired and not re-applied for the licence, but if they did re-apply, they would receive one.

4. What are the total costs to vehicle drivers for fines issued per year by your Police Force?

No information held. Please note, that the Police do not deal with the fines, however, HM Courts & Tribunals Service do, therefore, I would suggest that you direct this particular part of your request their way for assistance. However, as part of our Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance where possible, as an overview, offence code RT88139 is dealt with via a Court process only so they would only hold this data, the RT88334 if a fixed penalty is applied then a fine of £100 is issued and RT88507 a fine of £50 if a fixed penalty notice is complied with.

Ordinarily under our Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, we would advise you how to refine your request to a more manageable level. However, due to the difficulties outlined above, I cannot see how this can be achieved in this particular case.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Wiltshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

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The exemption applicable to the information requested is:

Section 12 – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this particular request.

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and been considered in the light of your request within the time constraints applicable under the legislation.

Wiltshire Police would like to thank you for the interest that you have shown in the Force.

Yours sincerely,

Force Disclosure Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2DN

Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Wiltshire Police, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, is entitled to complain and request an internal review, if they are dissatisfied with the response they received.

2. How to Request a Review

Requests for review of a Freedom of Information request must be made in writing to the:

Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police Headquarters,
London Road, Devizes,
Wiltshire,
SN10 2DN

Email at disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk.

The reference number, date of the request and details of why the review is being requested must be included. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Force Disclosure Unit within 20 working days of the Force's response to the original FOI request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing to include confirmation of the reasons for the review. The review will be conducted by another Decision Maker, who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Force Disclosure Unit will set a target date for a response. The response will be made as soon as is practicable with the intention to complete the review within twenty working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The Independent Decision Maker will conduct a review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

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4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Decision Maker will reply to the complainant with the result of the review. If the complainant is still dissatisfied following the review, they should contact the Information Commissioner to make an appeal. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following details:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk