



Dear

Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your e-mail dated 22 October requesting information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked for:

It has just been brought to my attention that in March 2011 a new ‘continuous insurance enforcement’ rule came in to force.

I (and many other keepers of motor vehicles that I know) was totally unaware of this significant change. I wish to request FOI on the penalty fines relating to ‘Failure to Insure’ prior to, and following this change.

Please provide me with figures including:

1) Number of penalty fines issued

Continuous Insurance Enforcement (CIE) was introduced in June 2011. The following table shows the number of penalties issued for each financial year.

	Jul 2011- Mar 2012	April 2012 – March 2013	April 2013 – March 2014	April 2014 – 22 October 2014
Fixed Penalty Notices	120,779	179,057	212,710	115,533

2) Total revenue generated for ‘Failure to Insure’ penalty fines in England for the following time periods:

- 1) April 2009-March 2010
- 2) April 2010-March 2011
- 3) April 2011-March 2012
- 4) April 2012- March 2013
- 5) April 2013-March 2014
- 6) April 2014-October 2014.

The below figures represent the fines collected for the Great Britain (GB) as a whole, figures are not recorded by country and so individual figures cannot be provided for England alone. Although Continuous Insurance was law as of 4 February 2011, the first penalties were not issued until 20 July 2011 and so there are no figures held prior to these dates.

Financial Year	£'000
2011 – 2012	£1,563
2012 - 2013	£2,879
2013 – 2014	£4,151
April – October 2014	£2,630

Please note that the April to October figure for 2014 is a provisional outturn for this period and is subject to year- end audit adjustments.

I also wish to be provided with a summary of how the change in this enforcement rule was communicated to drivers in England. Was there a campaign to raise awareness?

The law regarding insured vehicles changed on 4th February 2011 and was at the time communicated through inserts in V11s (vehicle tax reminders) for all vehicles registered in GB. There were TV adverts from late May 2011 as well as extensive press coverage. There has been further advertising via press releases after the first year of CIE going 'live' and also at the point of having issued 1million Insurance Advisory Letters. CIE information is also explained on the V5C Vehicle Registration Certificate in the section your responsibility as the registered keeper.

The information which follows concerns the procedures for making any complaint you might have about the reply. Please quote the reference number of this letter in any future communications about it.

Yours sincerely

Robert Toft
Head of Data Sharing Policy & Freedom of Information Team

Your right to complain to DVLA and the Information Commissioner

If you are not happy with the reply to your request, you can ask DVLA to re-consider the response you received by writing (within two calendar months of receiving this response) to either foi@dvla.gsi.gov.uk or DVLA Freedom of Information Team, DSPG/FOI, D16, DVLA, Swansea SA6 7JL.

DVLA will acknowledge and consider your request, re-visiting the response provided. This is known as an Internal Review and will be considered by a staff member not involved with the original reply.

If you disagree with the outcome of the Internal Review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information can be found via: www.ico.org.uk/concerns/getting Alternatively you may wish to write to: Customer Contact, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.