

1) How many driving tests (all categories) across the country have been affected due to industrial action by driving examiners in 2012?

I can confirm that there were 2,582 tests affected by strike action between 1 January and 28 August 2012.

2) Please also provide the number of driving tests (all categories) cancelled or re-arranged due to industrial action in 2012 for each of the following test centres:

Wolverhampton, Lower Gornal, Wednesbury, Cannock, Lichfield and Stafford

There were four tests at Wolverhampton and three tests at Lower Gornal affected by strike action between 1 January and 28 August 2012. There were no tests at the other named centres affected by strike action in the same time period.

3) Please reveal the cost to the public purse of tests affected because of industrial action by driving examiners in 2012.

We hold information on the value of the tests affected as a result of strike action. The total value of the 2,582 practical tests cancelled between 1 January and 28 August 2012 as a result of strike action was £161,097.40. Deductions to wages of those examining staff that took part in strike action between 1 January and 28 August 2012 totals £60,837.

As of 28 August 2012, we have also received 779 claims for out-of-pocket expenses as a result of strike action. We have processed 645 of these claims and paid out £36,218.44.

Please note that the dates of the strike action that examining staff may have taken part in between 1 January and 28 August 2012 were as follows:

- 10 May 2012 (full day strike)
- 8 June 2012 (2 hour strike)
- 15 June 2012 (2 hour strike)
- 13 July 2012 (3 hour strike)

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