

Please could I be told how many suspected instances of cheating occurred in each of the last three years for:

- a) driving theory tests**
- b) practical driving tests**

Please could I also be told what action was taken against the individual concerned and the outcome of any process?

The table below shows the number of tests for each of the last three financial years where an investigation has been conducted:

Financial Year	Theory tests	Practical tests
2009/10	1,424	943
2010/11	1,487	953
2011/12	1,332	444

We do not compile statistics on results of investigations based on the year the suspicion was raised. Statistics are produced on the number of arrests, convictions, police cautions and revoked licences each financial year, and these will in many cases be in respect of investigations started in an earlier financial year.

To compile information about outcomes based on the year the suspicion was raised would involve us manually reviewing each investigation. This information is exempt from release under section 12 (1) (cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit) of the FoIA.

The appropriate limit, as prescribed by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, is £600 for Central Government and £450 for other public authorities, with staff costs calculated at a rate of £25 per hour. When calculating whether the appropriate limit is exceeded, authorities can take account of the costs of determining whether the information is held, locating and retrieving the information, and extracting the information from other documents. They cannot take account of the costs involved with considering whether information is exempt under the Act.

There were a total of 6,583 investigation cases into theory and practical tests for the last three financial years. It has been estimated that it would take at least two minutes to review each case. Therefore to check all investigations would take in excess of 219 hours, which would exceed the 24 working hour limit prescribed.

Whilst we have not been able to supply details of the outcomes in the format you have requested, you may find the table below useful. Please note however, in many cases, the year of the outcome will not correspond with the year the investigation was started.

Financial Year	Arrests	Convictions	Police Cautions	Driving licences revoked
2009/10	260	60	120	232
2010/11	202	67	88	441
2011/12	272	73	119	837

At the end of the 2011/12 financial year there were still 189 individuals in the criminal justice system and 891 suspect tests still being investigated.

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