

Our ref: CRS 721,109

via email

Correspondence Manager
Dart Charge
1 Ridgeway, Quinton
Birmingham B32 1AF

22 June 2015

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - DART CHARGE

Thank you for your email dated 22 May 2015 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requesting an update to a response issued in March 2015. The specific details of your request have been extracted from your email and are highlighted bold with our responses below.

1) The number of those which failed to pay before the £105 (for cars) became due.

We have just started to issue Charge Certificates (which is the next stage of the enforcement process and the point at which the £105 penalty becomes due), so at the time of writing, penalty charges at the £105 rate are still within their 14 day payment period, therefore 0 have failed to pay.

In order to help road users adjust to the new charging arrangements, we delayed sending the first PCNs and, on the first occasion a vehicle uses the Crossing and does not pay within the required timescale, we have also issued warning letters giving drivers an additional 14 days to pay the required road user charge.

2) The number of those not paying, which were registered outside the United Kingdom. Of the 83,112 non-compliant crossings, how many have since made a payment.

In our response to your previous request, we confirmed that there were 83,112 potential non-compliant crossings by foreign registered vehicles in March 2015. We advised that this information was correct at the time of writing, and that we expected the number to reduce as more payments were received.

Disclosing the information you have requested would require a manual review of all accounts to be undertaken and would exceed the cost threshold of 18 working hours to collate.

Section 12 of the Act 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.

3) The number, which subsequently found to be operated on "Trade Plates" where the camera had failed to read the correct plate.

A manual review of all representations in response to PCNs issued would need to be undertaken to identify where trade plate misreads have been cited as a factor.

Similarly to question 2, disclosing the information you have requested would require a manual review of each representation to be undertaken and would exceed the cost threshold of 18 working hours to collate.

Section 12 of the Act 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 keeping with the spirit and effect of the legislation, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. We may therefore be publishing the information you requested, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context, via the [Gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review. Our internal review process is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaints-procedure>

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail info@highwaysengland.co.uk. You should contact me if you wish to complain.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number CRS 721,109 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Correspondence Manager

Email: [REDACTED]