

Our ref: CRS 732,082

Helen Jamieson
Charging and Enforcement Policy Team
Leader
Dart Charge
WMRCC Quinton
1 Ridgeway, Quinton
Birmingham B32 1AF

██████████
via e-mail

11 January 2016

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your e-mail dated 16 December 2015 under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The specific details of your request have been extracted from your email and are highlighted in bold within the body of this letter.

We regularly release information about Dart Charge on our website which can be found by accessing the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications>.

In response to your Freedom of Information request -

What is the number of foreign vehicles so prosecuted for not paying for the bridge we have already paid for?

What are the countries not paying, the numbers so charged, and the numbers not chased, not paid or disregarded?

The Dartford Crossing is made up of the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge and the two Dartford Tunnels. For the avoidance of doubt the figures used in this letter refer to the entire Dartford Crossing; our figures do not differentiate between the bridge and the tunnels.

We can confirm that from when Dart Charge began operating on 30 November 2014, until 17 December 2015, there were 2,040,270 crossings made over the Dartford Crossing during charging hours (6am to 10pm) by drivers of foreign registered vehicles.

Of these foreign registered vehicles, we can confirm that 75.1% paid the road user charge by midnight the day after their crossing (this data was correct as of 05 January 2016).

All users of the Dartford-Thurrock River Crossing are required to pay the road user charge, other than those vehicles which are registered as exempt under the terms of the A282 Trunk Road (Dartford-Thurrock Crossing Charging Scheme) Order 2013 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/2249/made>). Where the road user charge is not paid, enforcement action will be taken regardless of the road user's country of origin.

To date 433,556 PCNs have been passed to our European Debt Recovery Agency for issue to overseas drivers.

Regarding the data requested, please refer to the annexed spreadsheet for a breakdown of non-payment by country.

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 732,082 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely


Charging and Enforcement Policy Team Leader
Email:  [@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk)