



The Clamping and Removal of Nuisance Vehicles



Background

- There are currently 9,183 outstanding parking and traffic tickets owed by persistent evaders
- 9,183 outstanding tickets equates to a total debt of £381,397 that the Council is unable to recover
- In 2018 the Council cancelled a further 1,945 parking and traffic tickets because the vehicles were not registered with the DVLA so the owner cannot be traced
- Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) evasion has risen from 0.6% to 1.85 in the last six years
- 1.8% equates to a potential loss of £107 million to the Exchequer
- A recent DVLA audit showed there to be 7,526 untaxed vehicles in Cardiff (single day audit)

Legislation

- The Council already has the powers under the Traffic Management Act 2004 to clamp and remove illegally parked vehicles but has never used these powers
- The Council does not currently have the powers to clamp and remove untaxed vehicles
- The Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles) Regulations 1997 allows us to apply to the DVLA for these powers to be devolved to the Council

What are nuisance vehicles?

Vehicles that are:

1. Obstructively or dangerously parked
2. Persistent evaders of parking and traffic fines
3. Vehicles displaying fraudulent blue badges
4. Vehicles that are not registered with the DVLA

5. Untaxed vehicles

How it works

1. DVLA provides unlicensed database for ANPR use.
2. Untaxed vehicle identified.
3. Dedicated DVLA phone line during office hours will give you authorisation to enforce plus any support you may need.
4. Clamp, remove or sticker.
5. Enforcement Officer completes offence report which is sent to DVLA .
6. When impounded, vehicle is valued by local authority contractor.

Why Enforce

- Improves traffic and pedestrian flow by the removal of obstructively parked vehicles
- Encourages people to pay their parking and traffic fines
- Untaxed and non-registered vehicles are often in poor condition which damages the quality of local environments for people who live there
- Disrupts criminality associated with the use of untaxed and non-registered vehicles
- Encourages people to park properly and to tax their vehicles

Risk

- There are 53 Local Authorities and 24 Police Forces using the devolved DVLA measures.
- There have been 40,000 vehicles enforced in the last 12 months by Devolved Power Partners.
- The business case demonstrates work can be conducted and provide a surplus.
- Proposal to utilise Officers within the Civil Parking Enforcement Team.

Benefits

- Improves the quality of local environments for the people who live there.
- Reduces the opportunity for anti-social behaviour.
- Encourages motorists to re-license their vehicles.
- Disrupts criminality associated with the use of untaxed vehicles.
- Only Local Authorities with devolved powers can remove foreign registered vehicles.
- Removal of Council complaints about nuisance vehicles.