



Veronica Chapman

**Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency**

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Your Ref 7553-fc09e5db

Our Ref

Date: 12 March 2009

Dear Ms Chapman,

Thank you for your letter of 1 March to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) regarding the disposal of untaxed vehicles. I should explain that your enquiry hasn't been dealt with as a Freedom of Information request but as a routine day to day business request.

The Agency has powers to clamp and/or impound untaxed vehicles on the public highway (as defined under section 62 of the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994). The regulations are set out in The Vehicle Excise Duty (Immobilisation, Removal and Disposal of Vehicles) Regulations 1997, as amended.

A determined effort is made to contact the vehicle keeper in all instances where an unlicensed vehicle is impounded. It is only after these prove to be fruitless, or a keeper provides a disclaimer, that vehicles are disposed of. The vast majority of vehicles impounded are of low value, very poor quality and in most cases not roadworthy. Vehicles are occasionally disposed of at auction but the majority are considered to be in too poor condition to risk putting back onto the road and are subsequently crushed in the interests of road safety. No vehicles of a reasonable condition are needlessly crushed.

I trust that this clarifies the position for you.

Yours sincerely,

*Sent unsigned via e-mail*

Tina Higgins  
Policy Casework and Advice



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