

James Harvey

Email us at: foi@dvla.gsi.gov.uk
Website: www.gov.uk/browse/driving

Your Ref:
Our Ref: FOIR4539

Date: 25 March 2015

Dear Mr Harvey

Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your e-mail dated 23 March requesting information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

I understand that vehicle tax is no-longer transferred when a vehicle is sold. It is not possible to obtain a refund for part of a month, or to purchase tax for part of a month. This means there will be a period when a vehicle is sold where notionally (albeit not legally) the vehicle is taxed twice. How much additional revenue per annum does the DVLA expect to make from these "overlap" periods of double taxation.

I am also curious as to why the DVLA does not allow tax to be purchased on a daily basis. With the removal of the tax disc there seems to be no reason to require only whole months to be purchased.

DVLA does not hold information on any potential revenue gained from the non-transferability of vehicle tax.

Any potential revenue gained from non-transferability is likely to be offset by motorists receiving an automatic refund, which they may not have received prior to 1 October. The changes introduced through automatic refunds mean that 2.5 million more motorists will get a refund when they sell their car.

It has been a long standing feature that vehicle excise duty is issued from the first of each month and refunds are issued for only the complete calendar months remaining. This did not change following the abolition of the tax disc. Licensing and refunding vehicles from a date other than the first of the month would add a large amount of administrative complexity to the vehicle excise duty system. There are no plans to change this requirement.

The information which follows concerns the procedures for making any complaint you might have about the reply. Please quote the reference number of this letter in any future communications about it.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robert Toft', with a large loop and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

ppRobert Toft
Head of Data Sharing Policy & Freedom of Information Team

Your right to complain to DVLA and the Information Commissioner

If you are not happy with the reply to your request, you can ask DVLA to re-consider the response you received by writing (within two calendar months of receiving this response) to either foi@dvla.gsi.gov.uk or DVLA Freedom of Information Team, DSPG/FOI, D16, DVLA, Swansea SA6 7JL.

DVLA will acknowledge and consider your request, re-visiting the response provided. This is known as an Internal Review and will be considered by a staff member not involved with the original reply.

If you disagree with the outcome of the Internal Review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information can be found via: www.ico.org.uk/concerns/getting Alternatively you may wish to write to: Customer Contact, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.