Exemption - Section 31 (law enforcement)

Section 31(1)(g): Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information of its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the exercise by any public authority of its functions for any of the purposes specified in subsection (2)

Section 31(2)(a): the purpose of ascertaining whether any person has failed to comply with the law.

Factors for disclosure	Factors for with-holding
To be transparent	 Investigations are being made as to the conduct of parties and are at an early stage
To demonstrate that DVLA investigates matters where persons might have failed to comply with the law	DVLA needs 'safe space' to fully investigate
To demonstrate that DVLA takes action against those failing to comply with the law	 Investigations should be without hindrance and influence from third parties resulting from premature disclosure of information

Reasons why public interest favours withholding information

The issue of car parking is in the public interest but it is also in the public interest for DVLA to be able to fully and independently investigate whether car parking companies are complying with the law. To disclose, at such an early stage of investigations, the information requested would be likely to prejudice DVLA's ability to investigate without interference.