

# Wheelclamping *and removal of* vehicles without tax



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



An executive agency of the  
Department for  
**Transport**

# Wheelclamping of vehicles without tax

## Why has your vehicle been clamped or removed?

Every vehicle registered in the UK must be taxed if used or kept on a public road. If the vehicle is kept off road it must either be taxed or have a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN) in force. If not it could be wheelclamped or removed.

## What should you do if your vehicle has been clamped or removed?

You should contact the vehicle pound shown on the information card to make payment to release the vehicle.

## How much are the fees to release your vehicle?

To get your vehicle released you will need to pay a release fee (which increases after 24 hours) and produce a valid tax disc. If you are unable to produce a valid tax disc you will have to pay a surety fee (deposit) with the release fee.

From 1st October 2008 the fees to release a vehicle are as follows:

	Release Fee	Surety Fee (if you do not produce a valid tax disc)
Within 24 hours	£100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £160 for light passenger vehicles, light goods and motorcycles</li><li>• £330 for buses, recovery, haulage and goods vehicles</li><li>• £700 for exceptional loads and goods vehicles such as a heavy goods lorry or a bus</li></ul>
After 24 hours	£200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £160 for light passenger vehicles, light goods and motorcycles</li><li>• £330 for buses, recovery, haulage and goods vehicles</li><li>• £700 for exceptional loads and goods vehicles such as a heavy goods lorry or a bus</li></ul>
Storage	£21 per day	Applies after the vehicle has been removed and up until the vehicle is released

## **How can you pay?**

You can pay by cash, cheque (up to the value of a valid cheque guarantee card), postal order or most major credit or debit cards.

## **What documents do you need to release your vehicle from the vehicle pound?**

You need:

- Registration Certificate (V5C)
- proof of identity such as photocard driving licence or passport
- recent utility bill

If a V5C cannot be produced you must also provide documentation linking you to the vehicle such as a bill of sale, a valid insurance or MoT certificate and the vehicle pound will provide you with an 'Application for a registration certificate' (V62). This must be filled in and the appropriate fee paid by cheque or postal order and the vehicle pound will send it to DVLA for you.

## **Can the surety fee be refunded?**

The surety fee will be refunded when you produce a valid tax disc to either the vehicle pound or a DVLA local office within 14 days of the release of the vehicle. If you fail to produce a valid tax disc within 14 days you will lose the surety fee.

## **What if your vehicle was clamped or removed in error?**

You should contact the vehicle pound immediately.

## **What can be done if you have a valid tax disc for the vehicle but it was not displayed and your vehicle was clamped or removed?**

It may be possible to get your vehicle released free of charge. The vehicle pound should be contacted immediately and full details of the valid tax disc provided. The valid tax disc should then be taken to the vehicle pound and if all requirements are met, there will be no charge for releasing the vehicle.

## **What if you have no intention of taxing your vehicle, after it has been clamped or removed?**

The release fees still have to be paid including the surety fee, which is a legislative requirement. If a tax disc is not obtained the surety fee will not be refunded.

If you do not intend to tax your vehicle, it must not be used or kept on a public road **and** you must fill in a 'Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN)' (V890) and send it to DVLA. Otherwise it will be liable to be targeted again after 24 hours.

A SORN does not give entitlement to a refund of the surety fee.

## **What if you do not claim your vehicle?**

If your vehicle is not claimed it could be disposed of after 7 days.

## **Will any further action be taken?**

The DVLA local office will contact you to claim any unpaid back-tax on the vehicle from the date it was last taxed. There may also be a fine imposed of up to £1,000 or 5 times the annual cost of the vehicle tax whichever is more.

**Make sure you display a valid tax disc in your vehicle.**

**No Exceptions**

**No Excuses**

**No Escape**

## **It is an offence to:**

Remove, interfere with, or damage the information card and notices on a clamped vehicle.

Remove, interfere with, or damage the wheel clamp.

Make a false declaration which would allow a person to recover a vehicle.

Make a false declaration to obtain a refund of the surety payment.

Alter or use the vehicle release receipt fraudulently.

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DVLA has a duty to enforce equality legislation. This means that all its contracted services must also meet with the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA), The Race Relations Act 1976 (makes it unlawful to treat a person less favourably than others on grounds of nationality and colour, or ethnic, racial or national group), and the Sex Discrimination Act 1975. If you should encounter any difficulties at any of our contracted areas please inform the contractor.