

Vehicle Nuisance



Nuisance vehicles

Nuisance vehicles include:

- Motorcycles that are driven antisocially, illegally and on public land such as in alleyways, parks and green spaces.
- Cars driven with unnecessary revving of the engine and a loud exhaust, wheel spinning, speeding and the playing of excessively loud music.
- Drivers congregating and driving their cars and/or bikes anti-socially and being noisy in public car parks, particularly late at night.

The consequences

Police officers can give warnings (under section 59) to people who are using their vehicle antisocially.

If the warnings are ignored and the individual is caught a second time using the vehicle to cause a nuisance, the vehicle can be seized and possibly destroyed.

If a motorist is caught driving their vehicle without valid insurance, up to date road tax or a valid MOT the following penalties can apply:

- **No insurance** – the vehicle can be seized and the driver prosecuted and given penalty points on their licence.
- **No road tax** - the car may be seized and the driver given the opportunity to tax the vehicle and claim back the vehicle.
- **No MOT** - the driver can be fined and if the car is in a dangerous condition, the driver may be prohibited from driving the vehicle, be prosecuted and face penalty points on their licence.

To report nuisance drivers call Hampshire Police on 101.

Abandoned vehicles

If you have noticed a vehicle that you think is abandoned or untaxed, you can report it. A vehicle is abandoned if it has been intentionally left on or off the road and the owner does not intend to return to it. An untaxed vehicle is not necessarily abandoned.

If an untaxed/abandoned vehicle is on private land, it is the responsibility of the landowner to decide if they want to have this vehicle removed. You can get information on landowners at **www.landregistry.gov.uk**

Some things to look out for to help identify an abandoned vehicle are:

- It has not moved for a long time and has no apparent owner
- It is in a poor state of repair, e.g. broken glass or flat tyres
- It is untaxed
- It is in an unusual location, e.g. in a park or green space

You can check the vehicles tax and MOT status at **www.vehicleenquiry.service.gov.uk**

What happens when a vehicle is reported as an abandoned vehicle

The local council will inspect the vehicle and attempt to make contact with its registered keeper. If the registered keeper does not respond and the council believes the vehicle has been abandoned, a statutory notice will be applied which states that the council intends to remove the vehicle. This will give the owner of the vehicle or the owner of the land on which the vehicle is parked an opportunity to remove it.

If the notice expires and the vehicle is still in the same position, it will be removed. If the owner does claim the vehicle it will be their responsibility to remove it.

How to report a suspected abandoned vehicle

To report a suspected abandoned vehicle, please provide the following information:

- Registration number, make, model and colour
- Location
- How long the vehicle is believed to have been abandoned

Basingstoke and Deane: 01256 844844 | www.basingstoke.gov.uk

Hart: 01252 622122 | hart.fixmystreet.com

Rushmoor: 01252 398399 | www.rushmoor.gov.uk

Mini-Motos

About mini motos

Mini motos include motorised scooters, go-peds, and scrambler bikes. They are miniature, petrol-driven motorcycles and scooters, which can reach speeds of up to 60 miles an hour.

When used incorrectly, mini motos can disturb a community, damage the environment and put people's safety at risk. The vast majority of mini motos can only be used on private land with the owner's permission. Most do not meet the requirements for use on the highway. It is against the law to use a mini moto in public parks, open spaces, or on footpaths, pavements, cycle routes and bridleways. It is an offence to use a mini moto on a footpath to pass from one piece of private land to another.

Some areas do have sites where people can use mini motos. If the police find people using these vehicles inappropriately or in places where they are not allowed, they can and do seize them from the person using them. Other penalties may also apply.

If you are under 16

The only place that you can ride a mini moto is on private land but you must have the permission of the land owner.

If you are over 16

You can use a mini moto on private land but you must have the land owner's permission. You can use a mini moto on the road only if:

- The mini moto is registered with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA), taxed and insured.
- You have the correct driving licence for the mini moto. If the driving licence is a provisional one, then 'L' plates must be displayed both at the front and rear of the bike.
- You wear an approved protective helmet.
- The bike has an official number plate, brake lights, an audible warning instrument and indicators. If you use it at night, you must have working lights fitted.
- The bike's exhaust is not too loud or altered in any way.

If you use the mini moto on the road or in a public place without the relevant documents and safety gear, the police will:

- Confiscate and crush the bike
- Prosecute you under the Road Traffic Act for appropriate offences
- Issue an £80 penalty notice for disorder

If you are using a mini moto against the law, irresponsibly or antisocially, police officers can:

- Seize the vehicle
- Issue a fixed penalty notice

**To report mini motos, call
Hampshire Police on 101.**



Parking

All vehicles must be taxed and insured to be on the public highway. Local councils that have an agreement with the DVLA have the right to remove any vehicles without tax from the public highway.

Vehicles should not be parked within ten metres of a junction except in an authorised parking space. Vehicles parked in this way may be considered to be causing an obstruction and a fine could be issued.

Zig-zag lines are there to protect pedestrians. Drivers who stop on yellow zig-zags may be fined. Stopping on white zig-zags can result in a fine and three penalty points on the driver's licence.

Emergency vehicles do not have to follow parking restrictions when dealing with an incident.

Single and double yellow lines also apply to grass verges and the footpath either side of the road.





Some facts about parking

Unless a parking space is marked as belonging to a particular property, any vehicle may park there.

If there are no parking restrictions in place, such as double yellow lines or a residents' parking zone, and a vehicle is not blocking access by being parked across a dropped kerb, a vehicle has the right to remain parked indefinitely. Nobody has the right to ask another road user to move their vehicle.

Homeowners do not own the public highway outside their property or have a priority right to park there unless they have a dropped kerb outside it.

If a vehicle is parked on a pavement, is obstructing a driveway, or is obstructing visibility this can be reported to Hampshire Police on 101.

A vehicle parked legally opposite a driveway is not an obstruction unless a motorist cannot physically get in or out of their driveway.

If a vehicle is parked on a pavement and is causing an obstruction to pedestrians (e.g. forcing them to cross the road, preventing access for wheelchairs or pushchairs) this can be reported to Hampshire Police on 101.

Illegally parked vehicles can be reported to the appropriate local council:

Basingstoke and Deane: 01256 844844 | www.basingstoke.gov.uk

Hart: 01252 622122 | hart.fixmystreet.com

Rushmoor: 01252 398399 | www.rushmoor.gov.uk

In an emergency, or if you witness a crime taking place, always call 999.

For non-emergencies, please call 101.

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

Neighbourhood Watch

Find out about joining an existing Neighbourhood Watch scheme or start one in your area, by contacting the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator on 101.

Contact your local community safety team:

Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council 01252 844844

Hart District Council 01252 622122

Rushmoor Borough Council 01252 398399

Web - www.safernh.co.uk **Follow us on Twitter** - @safernorthhants

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