



Reference: EIR4448

Request:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from the council. Please may you provide me with:

1. How many reports of idle vehicles the council has received since 1 January 2019 to present. Please break down the figures into years. (i.e number in 2019, number in 2020 and up to now in 2021)

No information held as the Authority does not record complaints of idle vehicles.

2. Please include how many fines were issued for each year.

The Road Traffic Act 1988 and the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 deal with how vehicles can be used on a road. Under this national legislation, you must not leave a parked vehicle unattended with the engine running or leave a vehicle engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road.

The Act and Regulations are enforced by the police. However, under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002, local authorities may enforce the "stationary idling offence" (which is a contravention of regulation 98 Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 as it relates to the prevention of exhaust emissions).

This means that in a designated air quality management area, local authority officers have a discretionary power to request a driver to switch of the engine of a vehicle which is unnecessarily left running, and would be in breach of the above regulations.

There is no such air quality management zone currently in North Tyneside.

3. Please include the highest and lowest fine for each year.

See response to question 2.