



Intelligence Perspective

# The social & financial impact of vehicle offences.

Penalty Charge Notices in the United Kingdom.

PREPARED FOR

**Nationwide Local Authorities**

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United Kingdom

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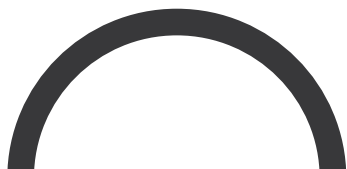
# Introduction

## Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs)

Vehicle offence fines cost local authorities thousands of pounds each year. In 2008, Be Wiser Insurance published the losses of unpaid vehicle offence fines under Peterborough Council, which amounted to £86,160. In 2014, the Local Government Association and the BBC cited findings on financial loss to local authorities through unpaid vehicle fines - Brighton & Hove were owed more than £750,000 in unpaid fines. Oxfordshire, Southampton, and Portsmouth councils were owed in the region of £500,000, Bournemouth council had written off £57,000 and Maidstone Council had lost £28,455.

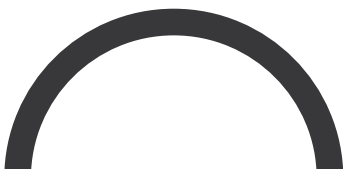
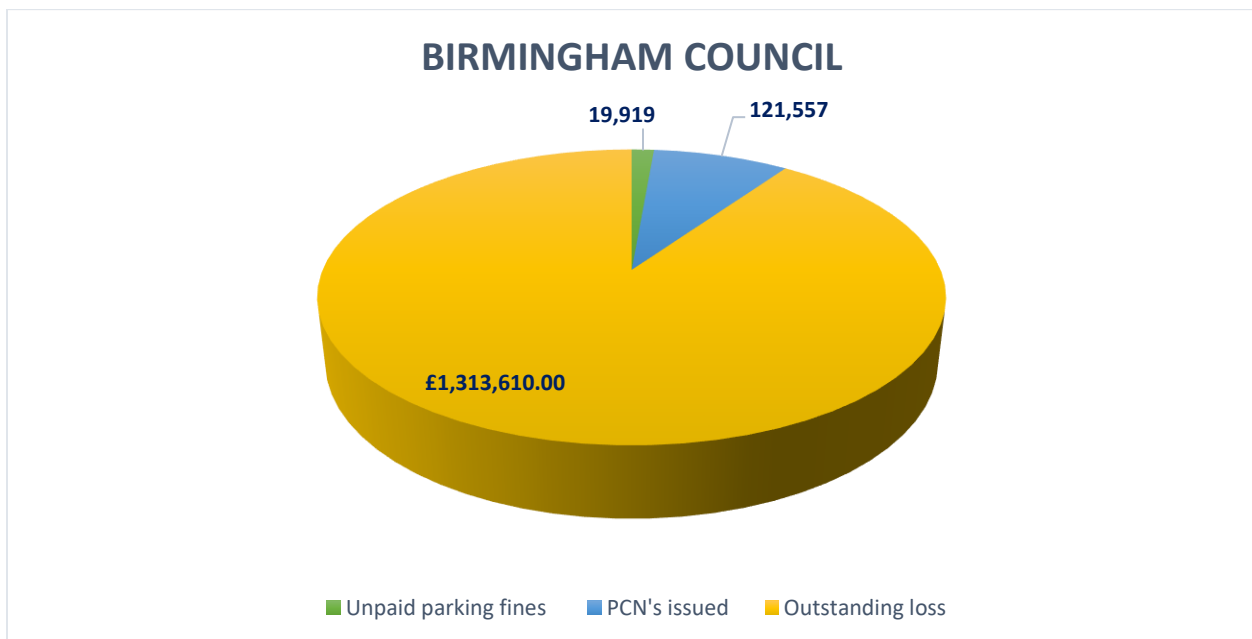
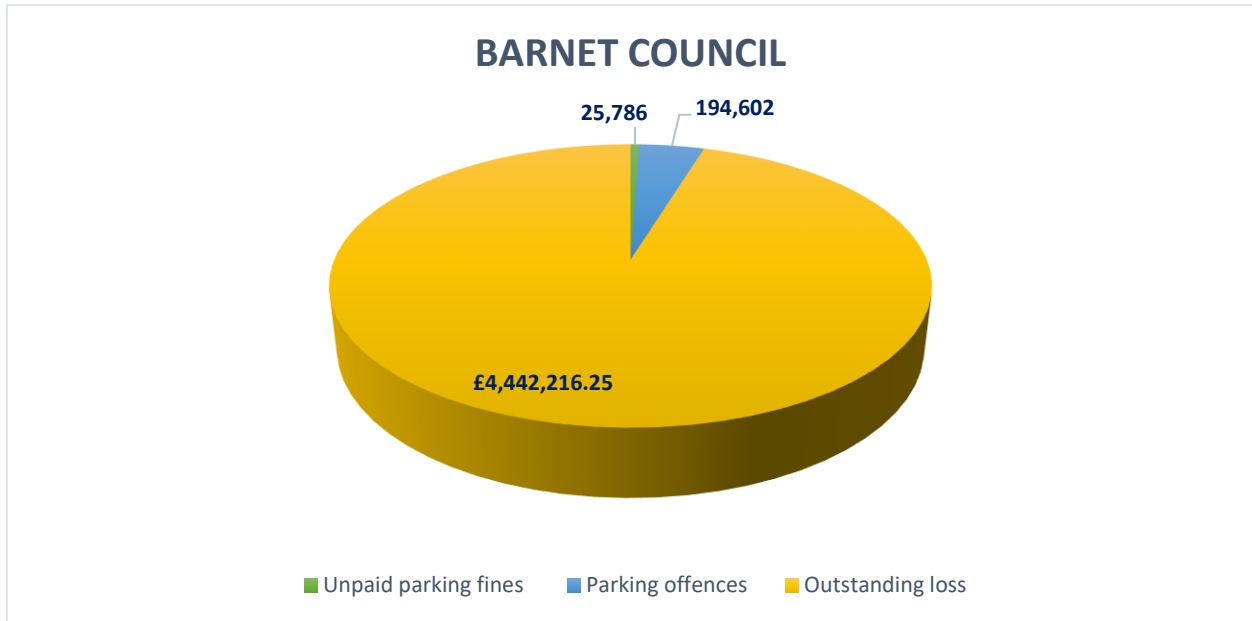
In February 2023, Intelligence Perspective conducted research to ascertain whether there is continued prevalence nationwide of vehicle offences and how those offences impact our local authorities (and communities), despite improvements to roads and transport, ticketing automation, CCTV, and parking availability and allowances. Our findings revealed that vehicle offences continue to rise, and local authorities are suffering losses amounting to hundreds of thousands of pounds that could better serve communities in the form of housing, security and community related projects. A Freedom of Information Request was made to several randomly selected local authorities nationwide. The below questions were the main areas of interest concerning national and foreign vehicle offences within the UK between 2021 - 2022:

- ❖ How many parking fines went unpaid?
- ❖ How many parking offences occurred?
- ❖ Are there any patterns of offending including the prevalence of repeat offenders?
- ❖ What was the financial loss (or outstanding) to the council?



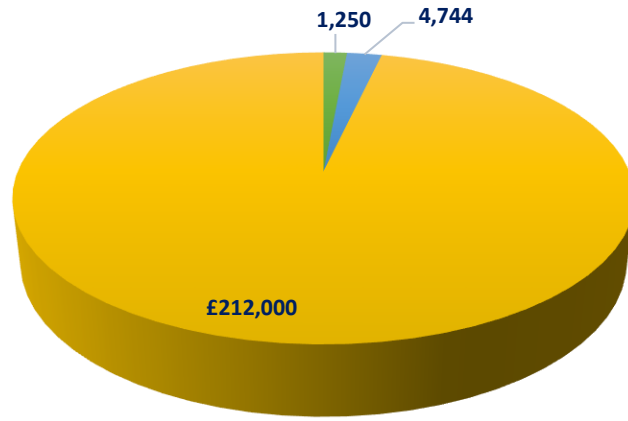


# Findings



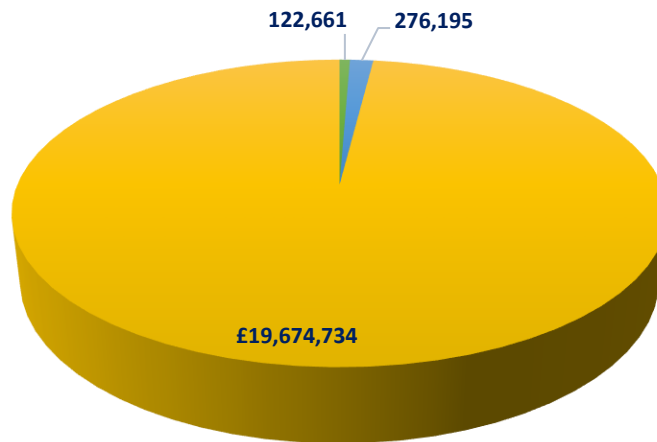


### ENFIELD COUNCIL

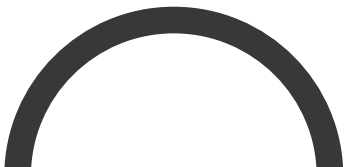


■ Unpaid parking fines ■ PCN's issued ■ Outstanding loss

### HACKNEY COUNCIL

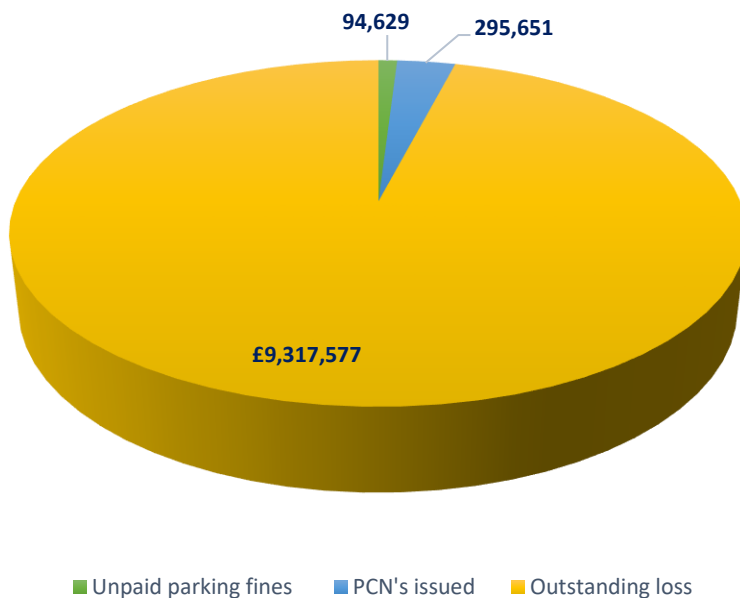


■ Unpaid parking fines ■ PCN's issued ■ Outstanding loss

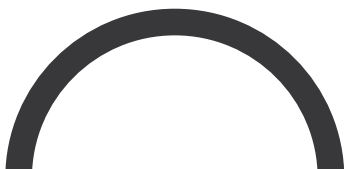
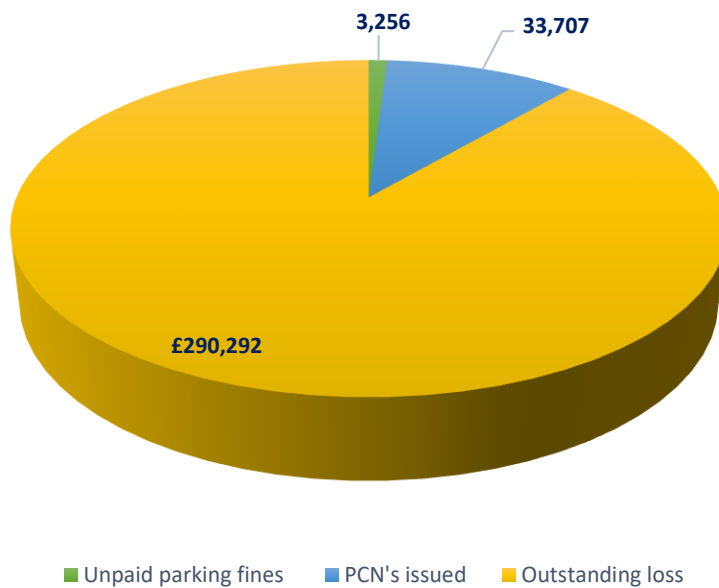




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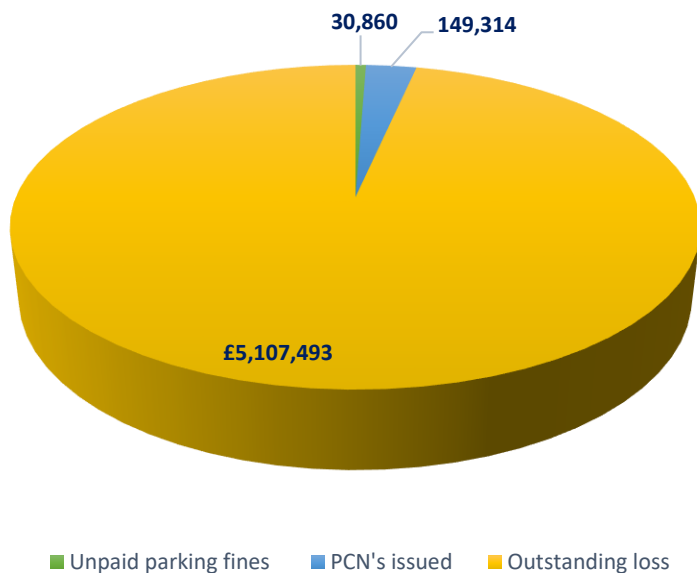


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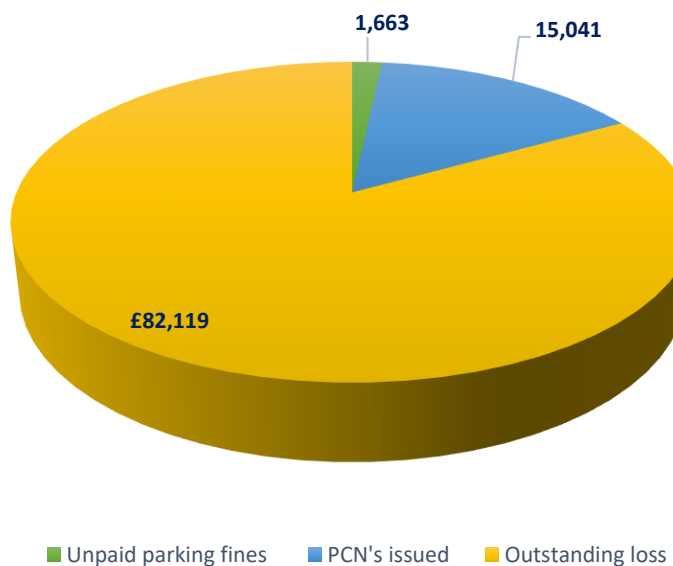




### LAMBETH COUNCIL

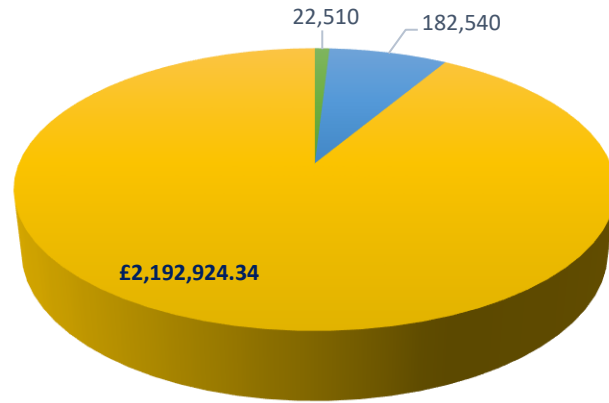


### WIRRAL COUNCIL



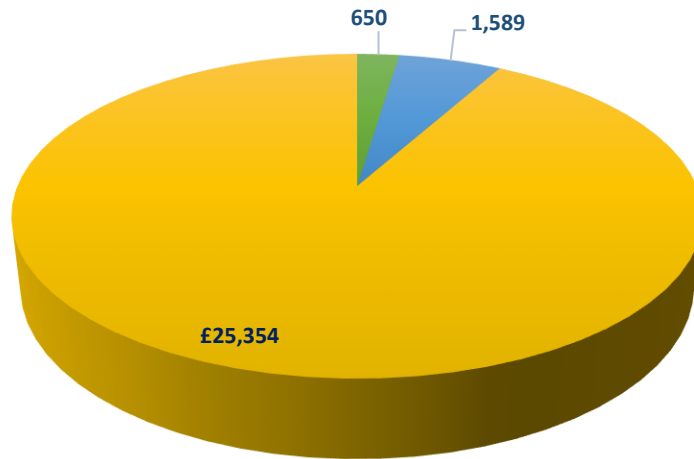


### LIVERPOOL COUNCIL



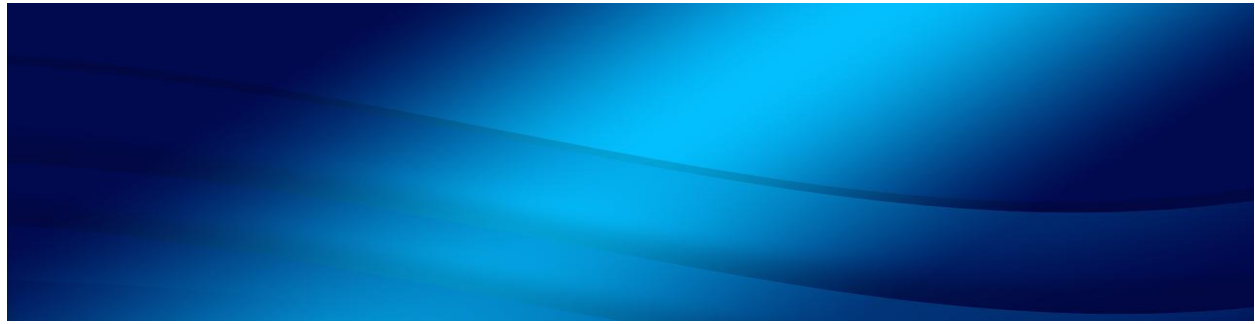
■ Unpaid parking fines   ■ PCN's issued   ■ Outstanding loss

### SOUTH SOMERSET COUNCIL



■ Unpaid parking fines   ■ PCN's issued   ■ Outstanding loss

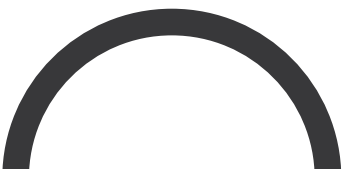




## Impact

The data revealed that within each local authority region there are persistent offenders. Some repeat offenders would accrue up to nearly 200 PCNs per person/vehicle. Top contraventions are parking on double/single yellow lines, parking without a valid ticket and parking in taxi ranks. Other contraventions included parking across loading/unloading bays and parking in bus lanes. Some infractions include driving through a street, lane or along a motorway the wrong way on a one-way system which has and continues to

cause catastrophic consequences in the form of serious and fatal injuries to life. Parking in bus lanes delays traffic and passengers experience inconvenience having to navigate oncoming traffic to board transport. Particularly, those passengers who are disabled and travelling with small children. Similarly, vehicles parking into and across loading/unloading bays cause congestion on our roads and interfere with business processes including that of stock management and distribution.







Local authorities incur hundreds of pounds in additional costs administrating the removal of some of these vehicles under certain conditions. The vehicles are removed and first impounded – if not claimed within a specified period, the vehicles will be disposed of. While many citizens will pay penalties to retrieve their vehicle, many more of these vehicles will not be claimed due to those vehicles being illegally on the road (no tax and/or insurance and driving without a licence).

Additionally, a number of those vehicles will be connected to criminal activity. Intelligence Perspective will investigate possible connections between these vehicles and organised crime.

Local authorities face an uphill battle navigating the facts from the fiction when attempting to locate debtors. Often, offenders will provide fictitious names and contact details compounding efforts to locate their whereabouts

# Our service

Intelligence Perspective understand the importance of locating these individuals and the difficulties local authorities face attempting recovery of loss of revenue - haemorrhaging thousands of pounds each year. Some of these individuals may need to be summoned in legal proceedings.

Our rates are competitive with a fixed fee, and we operate a no-find-no-fee service ensuring zero risk to our LA clients.

Please visit our website [Intelligence Perspective](#) for T's and C's, compliance details and to learn about additional services we offer and contact us on the details above to request further information.