

The Enforcement Team deals with a wide range of public amenity legislation and local byelaws.

If you wish to report an Environmental Crime:

Abandoned Vehicles
Bonfires
Grass Verge Parking
Fly-Tipping
Fly-Posting
Overgrown Hedges
Stray Dogs

Please contact us on 01462 474000

Graffiti 0800 3286023
Untaxed Vehicle (DVLA) 0800 0325202

Email: service@north-herts.gov.uk

Enforcement Officers are constantly out and about patrolling North Hertfordshire and will act whenever they see an offence being committed.

If you witness an Abandoned Vehicle on Local Authority land in North Hertfordshire, please contact the Licensing and Enforcement Team on (01462) 474000, Text Phone (01462) 474800 with the following details:

- Exact location
- Vehicle registration number
- Vehicle colour
- Vehicle make and model
- Tax expiry date (if displayed)
- Date and time of offence and description of persons responsible (if known)

Do not report to the Enforcement Team, a vehicle, which is just untaxed on the highway, or an abandoned vehicle on private property or a nuisance vehicle parked on the highway.

Please report any untaxed vehicles directly to the DVLA on 0800 0325202.

Please report to the Police any vehicles parked causing an obstruction of the highway.

North Hertfordshire District Council
Gernon Road
Letchworth Garden City
SG6 3JF
Telephone: 01462 474000
Text Phone: 01462 474800

Making North Hertfordshire a vibrant place to live, work and prosper.

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE REFUSE DISPOSAL (AMENITY) ACT
1978

ABANDONED VEHICLES

IT IS AN OFFENCE TO ABANDON A MOTOR VEHICLE OR ANYTHING THAT HAS FORMED PART OF A MOTOR VEHICLE ON ANY LAND IN THE OPEN AIR OR ON ANY OTHER LAND FORMING PART OF THE HIGHWAY (IT IS ALSO AN OFFENCE TO ABANDON ANYTHING ELSE THAT HAS BEEN BROUGHT ON TO LAND FOR THE PURPOSES OF ABANDONING IT).

MAXIMUM PENALTY £2,500

UNDER THE REFUSE DISPOSAL (AMENITY) ACT 1978 THE LAST REGISTERED KEEPER CAN BE FINED A FIXED PENALTY CHARGE OF £200 FOR ANY VEHICLE FOUND ABANDONED.

North Hertfordshire District Council has a duty to remove abandoned vehicles from the highway and treats this problem very seriously and will prosecute or fine anyone abandoning a vehicle.

It is an offence under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978 to abandon anything on any land in the open air or on any other land forming part of the highway. Offenders may receive a Fixed Penalty Charge of £200 or be prosecuted and liable to be fined up to £2,500. Costs will also be recovered for the removal, disposal or storage of abandoned vehicles.

An abandoned vehicle is a vehicle, which in the opinion of the relevant Local Authority is abandoned.



Only a relevant Local Authority officer has the power to state if a vehicle is abandoned and one or combination of the following criteria may be considered when making a decision on abandonment. An abandoned vehicle is a vehicle on any land in the open air or forming part of the highway, which is **untaxed** and which has no Registered

Keeper, stationary for a significant amount of time, significantly damaged, run down or unroadworthy, burned out, lacking one or more of its number plates or containing waste.



There may appear to be a rise in abandoned vehicles and the reasons may be due to depressed scrap values and second hand car parts. Also social changes (unlawful use of vehicles without tax or insurance) and increases in vehicles used in the execution of crime, higher motoring costs, higher parking costs and also increased public awareness.

An abandoned vehicle will be removed as soon as possible. No notice period is required to be given, but there are a number of procedures that we carry out before a removal takes place.

All abandoned vehicles are a nuisance, but not all nuisance vehicles are abandoned.

A nuisance vehicle may be a vehicle which is poorly parked, be causing an obstruction,

be part of a neighbour dispute, residential parking dispute or a vehicle breakdown, a vehicle offered for sale on a highway or a vehicle under repair on a highway.

Do not report a vehicle to us as abandoned just because it is a nuisance vehicle or an untaxed vehicle.

If a vehicle is causing an obstruction or if you suspect a vehicle to have been stolen, please report to the Police direct.

Report untaxed vehicles directly to the DVLA. All vehicles on the highway must be taxed or SORN if kept off road on private property with the land owners permission.

Everyone has a duty of care to ensure that they inform DVLA of any changes in vehicle ownership. If you fail to inform DVLA when selling your vehicle and your details are still stating that you are the last registered keeper then you will be liable for any fines payable.

If the vehicle appears to have been abandoned on private land, please contact the property owner direct.

The Council offers a vehicle End of Life scheme. For a small charge your unwanted vehicle will be collected, de-polluted and disposed of responsibly. Please contact us for more information.

Enforcement Officers regularly patrol North Hertfordshire by car and foot and will take action whenever an offence is being committed.