

Van driver fined £200 for not displaying No Smoking sign... which is four times the penalty for actually lighting up in a company vehicle

The Daily Mail



[Spivs Comment](#)

First off. Yes I do smoke. Second Off. No I am not biased. I was always of the opinion that the government have no right to interfere in peoples smoking habits. If a pub landlord wants to have a smoking house, that should be down to him/her. Non smokers can either then like it or lump it or go to a non

smoking pub. The same in turn applies to smokers.

Similarly, why should a company van used by one employee at a time have to display a 'no smoking' sign. Once again, that should be a company decision. Fucking bureaucracy is invading every single part of our lives. Petty stupid rules made by petty stupid people. Don't stand for it.

- Non-smoker Freddie Beasley had just picked up the new van from a garage
- Pulled over in a joint police and council clamp down on 'dodgy' vehicles
- Council officers then spotted that he didn't had a 'no smoking' sticker

By [DANIEL MILLER](#)

A van driver was handed a £200 fine for not displaying a No Smoking sticker on his new vehicle four times more than if he'd been caught actually puffing at the wheel.

Freddie Beasley, 28, from Cleankill Environmental Services had just picked up the brand new van from a garage when he was pulled over in a joint police and council operation to clamp down on 'dodgy vehicles.

Mr Beasley, who does not smoke, was warned that lighting up in company vehicles was illegal and that he would have been fined £50 if he had been caught taking a drag behind the wheel.



Fu
ming: Company boss Paul Bates with the £200 fine handed to one of his drivers for not displaying a no smoking sign on a brand new vehicle

Clipboard-wielding council officers then, however, spotted that he didn't had a 'no smoking' sticker on his gleaming van and he was given an on-the-spot fine of £200.

More...

- [Thief who targeted farms and stole £15,000 of equipment is tracked down on eBay after one of his victims turns detective](#)

Mr Beasley tried to explain that he had only just picked the new van up from a workshop where workers had painted the Cleankill logo on the side and that he was driving it back to the firm's HQ in Surrey.

The law states that any 'company vehicle' must have a no smoking sign – meaning that if he had been in the van with no logo he wouldn't have been fined as it would have been considered a 'personal van'.

Yesterday Mr Beasley's boss Paul Bates said he was 'fuming' at the fine.

He said: 'Let this be a warning to anybody that drives a company van...we have just been fined £200 for not displaying a no smoking sign in one of our vans.'



Offence: Mr Beasley had failed to display a no-smoking sign in the brand new van
'All our vans normally have them, but this was a new van we have only just had sign written, and was driven by somebody who doesn't smoke – but try explaining that to Haringey Council!

'The irony is that if our technician had been smoking he would have been fined four time less, just £50.'

'There was no warning or caution – it is absolutely ridiculous and at a time when small business like ours are having a tough time financially.'

The operation – run by Haringey Council, police and bailiffs – was called 'Operation Stop It' and was aimed at cracking down on 'unlicensed waste carriers' – fly-tippers – and other vehicles guilty of 'environmental crime'.

Bosses at Haringey Council said that 95 vehicles were stopped outside the Wickes DIY store in Haringey last Friday.

Among those stopped included six people driving vehicles in such a bad state they were seized by police, one man arrested for possessing drugs, one for stealing a disabled badge and several fly-tippers.

They also doled out 12 £200 fines for not displaying 'no smoking signs' in company vehicles and two £50 fines to people caught smoking inside company vans.

Cllr Nilgun Canver, Cabinet Member for the Environment at Haringey Council, said: 'We will continue to work closely with our partners in the police and the courts to tackle illegal activity around vehicles, especially looking out for unlicensed waste carriers that are responsible for so much dumping in our borough.

'We will continue to protect those workers who are forced to sit in smoke polluted environments because their employers don't comply with the law which bans smoke in company vehicles.'



Haringey Council

FIXED PENALTY NOTICE

You are required by law to give your name and address

No 1787

This notice offers you the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence specified below by payment of a fine with an option of a reduced payment period or a full payment by period from the notice. Please see method of payment and appeals process on the reverse of this notice.

The offence code below (OF) refers to the offence to which you have received a fixed penalty. Details explaining this offence can be found on the reverse of this page.

Alleged offence code OF..2...

Fine payable without discount within 28/29 days

- £50
- £100
- £125
- £150
- £250
- £200

Payment can be reduced if paid within 14/15 days from the day of the offence. See over for full discounted fines.

Full Name of Defendant The Company Director/Secretary
Cleankill Environmental Services Ltd
 Full Address 3rd floor, Leam House, 15 Lower
Red Kenley Surrey CR85UH
 Post Code CR85UH DOB.....

Date of offence 25/1/13 Time of offence 11:45 Ward 114

Location of offence 1st Prem Rd/Nightingale Lane, N8

Officers Name (Print) Maria Rivera being an authorised officer of the London Borough of Haringey, has reason to believe the person identified above has committed this offence.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE OFFENCE

Operation STOP IT with local SNT
Failure to display No Smoking sign in vehicle

DO NOT IGNORE THIS NOTICE

IF YOU DO NOT PAY THIS FIXED PENALTY NOTICE WITHIN THE 28/29 DAY PERIOD, YOU MAY BE PROSECUTED OR ALTERNATIVELY YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO A TRIAL FOR THE HEALTH ACT OFFENCE(S), AND IF CONVICTED, YOU COULD RECEIVE A MUCH LARGER FINE: THE MAXIMUM FINE FOR THIS OFFENCE IS STATED OVERLEAF. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT A COURT CONVICTION WILL LEAD TO A CRIMINAL RECORD.

Details on how to pay this fine are contained on the reverse of this notice.

Signature of Authorised Officer

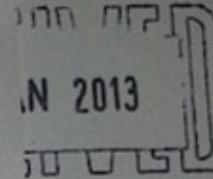
Date

28/1/13

Neighbourhood
 Ashley Road, Tottenham,
 Tel: 020 8489 1000 Fax
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Head of Neighbourhood Services

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Read

more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2272356/Van-driver-fined-200-displaying-No-Smoking-sign-times-penalty-actually-lighting-company-vehicle.html#ixzz2JmIFb4aC>

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