

safety2business+

Subject: Photocard Driving Licence Expiry Dates

Are you aware that photocard driving licenses have just past their 10th anniversary having been introduced in July 1998?

Are you also aware that thousands of drivers now risk being prosecuted and fined up to £1,000 because they are unwittingly driving without a valid licence?

Drivers have failed to spot that their photocard driving licence automatically expires after 10 years and has to be renewed.



A mock-up driving licence from 1998 showing that the licence has now expired item '4b'

Currently drivers have to pay £17.50 to renew their photocard driving licence.

Motorists who fail to renew their licence in time are allowed to continue driving but the DVLA says they could be charged with 'failing to surrender their licence', an offence carrying a £1,000 fine.

For further information on photocard driving licences, go to:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/DriverLicencing/DG_068315

DLA figures reveal that while 16,136 photocard driving expired this summer, so far only 11,566 drivers have renewed, leaving 4,570 outstanding.

With another 300,000 photocard licences due to expire over the coming year, the number of invalid licences could soar. A total of 25million have been issued.

At the heart of the confusion is the small print on the credit card-size photo licence. Just below the driver's name is a numbered series of dates and details.

Number '4b' features a date in tiny writing but the significance is explained only if the driver turns over the card and reads the key on the back which states that '4b' means 'licence valid to'.

13.	9. Cat.	10. From	11. To	12. Codes
14.	B	16-01-07	09-04-58	
1. Surname	B1	16-01-07	09-04-58	
2. Other Names	fkp	16-01-07	09-04-58	
3. Date and place of birth				
4. Licence valid to				
5. Licence number				
9. Category				
12. Information codes				

4b: The small print on the back of the photocard driving licence is easy to miss

Things To Do:

Managers:

- Inspect your employees driving licenses as part of your annual checks.
- Keep a copy of the drivers photocard driving licence (and paper counterpart) or old version paper driving licence on file.

Employees:

- Check your photocard driving license.
- Renew your photocard driving licence if near to its expiry date.
- If you change your name or address, please notify DVLC and your Line Manager immediately.