**Viewing Your Driving Licence Information**

From 8 June 2015, the paper counterpart to the photocard driving licence will not be valid and will no longer be issued by DVLA. The counterpart was introduced to display driving licence details that could not be included on the photocard. These details include some vehicle categories you are entitled to drive and any endorsement/penalty points. View our [infographic](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/abolition-of-the-counterpart-to-the-driving-licence-infographics) for information about the driving licence changes. Please note, this does not affect photocard licences issued by DVA in Northern Ireland.

## This service replaces the [paper counterpart](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/driving-licence-changes) of your licence from 8 June 2015.

## **Why is the counterpart being abolished?**

## The decision to abolish the counterpart was as a result of the government’s Red Tape Challenge consultation on road transportation. It also aligns to [DVLA’s Strategic Plan](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dvla-3-year-strategic-plan) which includes commitment to simplifying our services.

**You can use this service to:**

* view your driving record, eg vehicles you can drive, [penalty points](https://www.gov.uk/penalty-points-endorsements) and [disqualifications](https://www.gov.uk/driving-disqualifications)
* create a licence check code to share your driving record with someone else, eg your employer or a car hire company. The check code will allow someone to see what vehicles you can drive, any penalty points or disqualifications, your name and the last 8 characters of your driving licence number.

**You can’t use this service:**

* if your licence was issued in Northern Ireland
* to check the progress of a licence application
* to check historical information, e.g. expired penalty points or old driving licence entitlements

## **What this means for you**

### **Customers with existing paper counterparts**

If you already hold a paper counterpart, after 8 June 2015 it will no longer have any legal status. You should destroy your paper counterpart after this date but you still need to keep your current photocard driving licence.

1. **Customers with paper driving licences**

Paper driving licences issued before the photocard was introduced in 1998 will remain valid and should not be destroyed. If you need to update your name, address or [renew](https://www.gov.uk/renew-driving-licence) your licence, you will be issued with a photocard only.

### **Penalty points (endorsements)**

From 8 June 2015 new [penalty points](https://www.gov.uk/penalty-points-endorsements) (endorsements) will only be recorded electronically, and will not be printed or written on either photocard licences or paper driving licences. From this date, if you commit an offence you will still have to pay any applicable fine and submit your licence to the court but the way the court deals with the paperwork will change.

For photocard licences, the court will retain the paper counterpart and only return the photocard to you.

For paper licences, the court will return it to you but they won’t have written or printed the offence details on it.

This means that from 8 June 2015 neither the photocard driving licence nor the paper licence will provide an accurate account of any driving endorsements you may have. Instead, this information will be held on DVLA’s driver record, and can be viewed [online](https://www.gov.uk/view-driving-licence), by [phone or post](https://www.gov.uk/contact-the-dvla).

The courts are unable to respond to queries about the destruction of your paper counterpart. Any concerns about this process should be directed to [DVLA](https://www.gov.uk/contact-the-dvla).

### **Hiring a vehicle: how to prove your driving record after 8 June 2015**

From 8 June 2015, you may wish to check with the hire company what they need to see when you hire a vehicle. If you’re asked for evidence of what vehicles you can drive or confirmation of any penalty points, you can [request a unique code](https://www.gov.uk/view-driving-licence) from GOV.UK which allows you to share your driving licence details or you can download a summary of your driving licence record. The code lasts for up to 72 hours and will allow the hire companies to make any necessary checks.

If you cannot generate a code online then you can call 0300 083 0013 and DVLA will provide you with a code.

Alternatively, you can call DVLA on 0300 790 6801 and leave permission for your driving record to be checked verbally by a nominated hire company. This also applies if you have a paper licence that was issued before 1998.

Not all vehicle hire companies will ask for this information and we advise that you check with your hire company.