

55607 Engine Idling

Please provide responses to the following:

Whether the council maintains records of public complaints or reports of engine idling.

Yes, The City of Edinburgh Council currently records all complaints directed to the Street Enforcement Service.

How many reports or complaints about engine idling have been made, broken down monthly from January 2020 to the most recent month in 2025?

Please refer to the table below which provides engine idling complaints recorded per month from January 2020 to June 2025.

2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
January	5	January	12	January	10	January	23	January	3	January	4
February	9	February	9	February	8	February	2	February	7	February	10
March	1	March	9	March	4	March	8	March	12	March	6
April	0	April	9	April	3	April	9	April	8	April	1
May	0	May	7	May	8	May	3	May	5	May	15
June	2	June	7	June	2	June	8	June	2	June	7
July	3	July	10	July	8	July	9	July	4	TOTAL	43
August	3	August	6	August	8	August	3	August	4		
September	5	September	14	September	5	September	4	September	1		
October	4	October	4	October	1	October	5	October	0		
November	7	November	8	November	11	November	3	November	3		

December	3	December	9	December	24	December	6	December	3
TOTAL	42	TOTAL	104	TOTAL	92	TOTAL	83	TOTAL	52

The number of fines issued for engine idling offences, broken down monthly for each calendar year from January 2020 to the most recent month in 2025.

No fines were issued in this period.

The total revenue generated from these fines, also provided as a monthly breakdown for the same period.

Not applicable - No fines were issued in this period.

The number of verbal or written warnings issued for engine idling, broken down monthly from January 2020 to the most recent month in 2025.

No Verbal or Written Warnings were issued in this period.

The location or street name/postcode where each fine or warning was issued, if available.

Not applicable.

The current fixed penalty amount for engine idling offences.

£20, which rises to £40 if left unpaid after 28 days.

Whether the council operates any designated “anti-idling zones” (e.g., around schools, hospitals, or town centres). If so, please provide a list of these zones.

There is no designated “anti-idling zones” in operation.

Whether the council has a specific enforcement policy or procedure for engine idling (e.g., how long a vehicle must idle before action is taken, whether a warning is required first, what evidence is needed, etc.).

Legislation currently requires a request be made to switch off the engine. If the driver fails to switch off after a reasonable amount of time has elapsed, a Fixed Penalty may be issued. In all cases where a driver has been approached by a Street Enforcement officer, all drivers have complied with immediate switch off.

Whether civil enforcement officers or other staff are authorised to issue engine idling fines. If so, how many currently hold this authority?

Street Enforcement currently has 22 Enforcement Officer positions that are tasked with dealing with, amongst other duties, Engine Idling complaints.

The minimum idling time required before a fine or warning can be issued (e.g., 1 minute, 2 minutes).

Legislation does not provide a specific time frame to follow, simply stating that a 'reasonable' amount of time must elapse.

The number of engine idling fines that have been appealed, cancelled, or remain unpaid, broken down monthly from January 2020 to the most recent month in 2025.

Not applicable.

Whether the council has considered or implemented a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) or any similar legal instrument to support engine idling enforcement.

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to which a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) may be implemented is only applicable to England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. This City of Edinburgh Council has not considered any other legislative tools in regard to Engine Idling matters.