



DRIVING LICENCES CHANGES - JUNE 2015



driving record when renting vehicles. But an AA/Populus survey showed that more than a third of drivers who have hired a car abroad in the past five years have been asked to show their paper counterpart.

Recovery company GEM Motoring Assist fears that queues could build up at car hire offices while a survey from money.co.uk showed that nearly three quarters of drivers were unaware of the need to produce a code when renting vehicles.

What does the DVLA say about all this?

They reckon car rental companies will be well aware of the change and they advise drivers to check with their hire company about what documents and information they require.

Should people keep the old paper counterpart?

Well, the DVLA says no, but the AA says it's best to hold on to it and take it abroad as a "belt and braces" measure.

Just how many people are affected by the change?

There are 46.3 million driving licence holders in Britain of whom 37.7 million have a photocard driving licence. A total of 8.7 million have an old-style paper licence issued before 1998, which remain valid.

**Driving licence changes
Everything you need to know
Don't worry, if all goes to plan this
should actually make your life easier...**

The paper counterpart of the driving licence was abolished from 8th June 2015. You will all the details you need to know below.

What exactly is happening?

From June 8 the paper counterpart to the photocard driving licence is being scrapped and replaced by an online service. The counterpart includes information on a driver's penalty points along with details of what vehicles they can drive.

So what's replacing it?

Drivers can view their licence information online and can generate a check code to share details with third parties by logging on to www.gov.uk/view-driving-licence

A Check Code

The check code can, for example, can be shared with an employer or a car hire company. It will allow someone to see what vehicles you can drive, any penalty points or disqualifications, your name and the last eight characters of your driving licence number.

Why is the change being introduced?

To make your life harder. No, it's all part of the Government's drive to reduce unnecessary red tape. So maybe making your life easier? Last year the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) had to replace around 445,000 counterparts because drivers had lost them, for which they were charged £20 each to cover the cost.

Why are motoring groups so anxious about the change?

They think car hire companies, particularly those abroad, who want to check a driver's record will be unaware of the change. Not all drivers need to show details of their



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