

Notice of Motion Cllr McGrath

- 1) " To seek a written report outlining who is responsible for the removal of abandoned vehicles in a public place. "

Under the Road Traffic Acts, 1961 – 1968, and the Road Traffic (removal, storage and disposal of vehicles) Regulations 1983: "A vehicle which has been abandoned on a public road or in a car park may be removed by or on the authority of a road authority."

When a vehicle has been reported to the Council the Area Office inspect and forward details to the Parking Section on Floor 5. The Council is obliged to notify the last known registered owner of the abandoned vehicle of their intention to dispose of same and may not destroy the vehicle until 6 weeks have passed from the date of notification. A standard warning letter is issued to owner stating that the car will be disposed of within 14 days if not removed and that they will be charged €127.00 for costs incurred.

In the majority of cases, of Council's letter is not responded to. Once the two week deadline has expired, the Area Engineer's office arrange for the collection and subsequent disposal of the vehicle.

There has been a significant increase in instances of cars being abandoned. Over 140 cases have been reported to date in 2016 in comparison to 81 in total 2015. This represents a 73% increase on the total number of incidents for 2015. These figures cover the South Cork Area. It should also be noted that this represents a significant cost to the local authority.