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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**



**MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Monday, March 12, 2018**

**QUESTION NO.29**

**QUESTION: Councillor L. O'Toole**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on any increases/decreases in relation to abandoned cars and removal of cars via the Litter Warden countywide and to provide figures for same.

**REPLY:**

There has been an increase in the number of vehicles reported as abandoned in recent years.  However, it should be noted that certain complaints of ‘abandoned’ vehicles are solely traffic matters.

Similarly, other reports relate solely to ‘nuisance vehicles’ are not in fact abandoned, such as

* Vehicles poorly parked
* Vehicles causing an obstruction
* Vehicles involved in residential parking disputes
* Broken down vehicles
* Untaxed and uninsured vehicles

A comprehensive review of the management of abandoned vehicles was undertaken in 2016/2017 in collaboration with the EPR&CC SPC and a protocol for the management of this service was agreed.

Cars that are abandoned (which display identification marks) are dealt with under Section 71 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, which provides for the investigation of vehicles reported / ownership checks /inquires/communications with the owners (where known) removal and taking ownership of abandoned vehicles.

Following the procedure above it can take up to 6 weeks to complete the process, depending on the complexity of the issue and co-operation from other relevant bodies.

In collaboration with An Garda Siochana to establish if vehicles are "of interest", burnt out cars on public grounds causing risk to public safety, are removed as soon as possible.

The council continues to investigate reports of abandoned vehicles received, and it is advised that where there is ambiguity regarding the correct course of action,  reports be referred directly to SDCC who will determine the most appropriate course of action, often in consultation with An Garda Síochána.

The following is an outline of reports received for 2015-2017 incl.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|    | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  |
| Abandoned Cars  | 166  | 353  | 917  |
| Burnt out cars  | 13  | 53  | 183  |

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