



Understanding Vehicle Suspensions

What is a vehicle licence suspension?

If you do not pay your court fines or infringements, a Vehicle Suspension may be issued.

The Vehicle Suspension prevents the owner of the vehicle, or anyone else, from using that vehicle.

A Vehicle Suspension also restricts the ability to renew, register or transfer a vehicle licence.

I have just purchased a vehicle and the vehicle licence is suspended. I cannot transfer or register it in my name.

What do I do?

Please email a description of the purchase details, a copy of the transfer paperwork and proof of purchase to ferwarrants@justice.wa.gov.au.

Subject to approval, the Fines Enforcement Registry will arrange for the suspension to be lifted so the transfer may be considered.

I have no proof of purchase or transfer paperwork. What do I do?

You will need to complete a Declaration of Vehicle Ownership Form VL50 available from the Department of Transport website at www.transport.wa.gov.au.

You must submit the original form to the Department of Transport and a copy of it to the Fines Enforcement Registry at ferwarrants@justice.wa.gov.au.

Subject to approval, the Fines Enforcement Registry will arrange for the suspension to be lifted so the transfer may be considered.

Should I buy a vehicle that has a vehicle licence which is suspended?

It is not recommended that you buy a vehicle if the vehicle licence is suspended as it may cause you unnecessary complications. The Fines Enforcement Registry does not have to lift the vehicle suspension.

I own a company that is in liquidation and I am transferring the ownership of the company vehicles into my name. The vehicles have suspensions against them. What do I do?

The outstanding fines will need to be paid in order to lift the suspension. If you are attempting to transfer registration details of a vehicle which is part of a liquidated company's assets into your own name, you are strongly urged to obtain legal advice on this matter.

Can the suspension be held against the previous owner, rather than the vehicle licence of the vehicle I have bought?

No. The previous owner has not paid their court fines or infringements and the vehicle suspension restricts the ability to renew, register or transfer a vehicle licence. While the vehicle remains registered to the previous owner, the vehicle suspension remains in place.

I intend to take ownership of a vehicle from a deceased person's estate. Its vehicle licence has been suspended. What do I do?

Please provide the Fines Enforcement Registry with as much information about the previous owner as you can so appropriate checks can be carried out. Once the death of the previous owner is confirmed, the fines may be written off and the vehicle suspension lifted.

How do I check if a vehicle has a vehicle suspension against the licence?

The Department of Transport has an online service where you can check if a vehicle licence has any issues. Visit www.transport.wa.gov.au.