

**Nov 5 2007**

**MIB Police Helpline Extends Opening Hours**

Having rolled out its Police Helpline to all police forces in the UK (except PSNI), the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB) has now extended its hours of availability.

Following consultation with our members and police forces, the Helpline is open from 9am to 6pm with immediate effect.

Ashton West, CEO of MIB states:

“Extending the opening hours for the Police Helpline demonstrates a proactive measure by the MIB in helping the Police to remove uninsured driving from our roads and helps to ensure checks are in place to avoid unnecessary seizures.”

MIB launched a dedicated Police Helpline in April 2007 to assist the Police with difficult roadside situations where there may be doubt over the validity of insurance cover for a suspect vehicle.

The officer can ring the dedicated 0845 number to ask for additional checks to be made with an insurance provider to confirm whether cover is active on a vehicle and whether the driver is insured to drive the vehicle.

Uninsured driving costs law-abiding motorists in excess of £500m each year or around £30 on every insurance premium. 160 deaths on the roads each year in the UK are caused by uninsured drivers.

23,000 people are injured in accidents involving uninsured drivers each year.

Ends

**For more information, please contact:**

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### Notes to editors

1. The Motor Insurers' Bureau compensates the victims of road accidents caused by uninsured and untraced motorists
2. The MIB campaign is supported by The Police, Insurance Companies and Brokers, BRAKE (the Road Safety Charity), PACTS (The Parliamentary Advisory Committee for Transport Safety), LARSOA (Local Authority Road Safety Officers Association) and RoSPA (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents)
3. The MIB also operates the Motor Insurance Database (MID), which contains details of all insured vehicles in the country
4. 25.4 million enquiries were made on the MID by the Police during 2006, exceeding the target of 15.2 million by 67%
5. During 2006 78,000 vehicles were seized by the Police
6. Check if the vehicle you drive is on the MID by visiting [www.askmid.com](http://www.askmid.com)
7. Members of the public are advised to contact their insurer or broker if they are concerned that their vehicle may not be on the MID

For more information please visit [www.mib.org.uk](http://www.mib.org.uk).