West Midlands Police Freedom of Information

Motorists who display an illegal number plate or an obscured plate can be issued with a Traffic Offence Report (TOR) or a Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme (VDRS) notice, means they escape a penalty if the fault is fixed within 14 days. Beyond this, if a second offence is caught they could have their number plates revoked.

I would like to know how many traffic offence reports West Midlands Police have made between 1 January 2020 and 8 June 2023 regarding illegal or obscured number plates and how many times those reports were made to a single vehicle - which could result in the number plate being rescinded.

Offence Type	2020	2021	2022	2023
Drive vehicle no front registration plate - registered after 30/09/38	83	57	34	7
Drive a vehicle with registration mark obscured / indistinguishable	14	25	16	1
Drive vehicle / vehicle and trailer no rear registration plate - registered after 30/09/38	12	5	4	0
Keep a vehicle with registration mark obscured	8	4	4	2
Drive a vehicle with no registration plate - registered before 1/10/38	1	1	0	0
Keep vehicle no front registration plate - registered after 30/09/38	7	8	5	3
Keep vehicle no rear registration plate - registered after 30/09/38	1	0	0	0

Our data supplier does not have access to the VRM's associated with these offences, therefore we are unable to provide an answer in relation to the number times the reports were made to a single vehicle - which could result in the number plate being rescinded.

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