

**Freedom of Information Act / Environmental Information Regulations Request**

Reference: ECC18800328 07 25
Response: 05 August 2025

I can confirm that Essex County Council does hold this information, and where we are able to release this, our response is listed below.

**I am a journalist at better retailing and would like to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding enforcement activity against convenience stores, newsagents and off licences within your local authority area. Please provide data for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. If possible, please break the data down by quarter or year.**

**Specifically, I request:**

1. **The number of seizures involving illegal or non-compliant vaping products.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Financial Year | No. seizures | Premises type | No | Est value (@ £9.70) |
| 2023 - 24 | 3 | Convenience Store x 3 | 968 | £9,380 |
| 2024 - 25 | 1 | Convenience Store | 139 | £1,347 |

In addition to the above during 24/25, 354,600 vapes (imported consignments) were refused entry at port and returned to origin.

1. **The number of fixed penalty notices, formal warnings, enforcement notices, cautions, or other actions issued to vape retailers.**

218 retailers received a copy of the attached advice notice between 5th February 2024 – 3rd December 2024.

1. **The reasons for non-compliance.**

**If possible, please supply this information in a spreadsheet or machine-readable format, with each data point clearly identified under the above headings.**

All products seized or refused entry were due to non-compliance with the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016

**Your Right to Know**

Democracy and Transparency

Essex County Council

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