

<b>Title:</b> Online convictions/statutory fixed fine <b>IA No:</b> MoJ022/2016 <b>RPC Reference No:</b> <b>Lead department or agency:</b> Ministry of Justice <b>Other departments or agencies:</b> HMCTS	<b>Impact Assessment (IA)</b>			
	<b>Date:</b> 15/09/2016			
	<b>Stage:</b> Development/Options			
	<b>Source of intervention:</b> Domestic			
	<b>Type of measure:</b> Primary legislation			
<b>Contact for enquiries:</b>				
<b>Summary: Intervention and Options</b>			<b>RPC Opinion: RPC Opinion Status</b>	

Cost of Preferred (or more likely) Option				
Total Net Present Value	Business Net Present Value	Net cost to business per year (EANDCB in 2014 prices)	One-In, Three-Out?	Business Impact Target Status
£m	£m	£m	Not in scope	Not Applicable

**What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary?**

Around 890,000 cases a year involve summary-only, non-imprisonable offences with no identifiable victim. Many of these are eligible to go through the Single Justice Procedure (currently being rolled out), which allows one magistrate to handle the case on the papers rather than conduct proceedings at a hearing. A subset of these cases could be eligible to progress through an online process where the defendant chooses to plead guilty and is informed of the prospective penalty before confirming acceptance which results in an instant conviction and a fine being imposed by operation of legislation without the involvement of a magistrate.

**What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?**

This process would allow defendants to resolve their cases entirely online, faster and more easily, with certainty of the penalty imposed and the ability to pay fines immediately. Magistrates and legal advisors would spend less time on this routine work, allowing their time and space in court buildings to be focused on more complex cases.

The policy also reflects broader departmental objectives of digitising services.

**What policy options have been considered, including any alternatives to regulation? Please justify preferred option (further details in Evidence Base)**

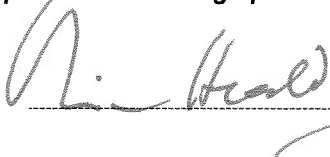
The following options have been assessed:

- Option 0: Do nothing (base case) – channelling all eligible cases through the Single Justice Procedure.
- Option 1: Implementing the online guilty plea / automated fixed fine process for in-scope cases (which would not include motoring offences), with the possibility of extending this to certain categories of motoring offences in the future.

Option 1 is the preferred option as it best meets the policy objectives.

<b>Will the policy be reviewed?</b> It will be reviewed on a rolling basis. If applicable, set review date: N/A						
<b>Does implementation go beyond minimum EU requirements?</b>			N/A			
<b>Are any of these organisations in scope?</b>			Micro N/A	Small N/A	Medium N/A	Large N/A
<b>What is the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent change in greenhouse gas emissions? (Million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent)</b>			Traded: N/A		Non-traded: N/A	

*I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that, given the available evidence, it represents a reasonable view of the likely costs, benefits and impact of the leading options.*

Signed by the responsible Minister:  Date: 14/9/16

# Summary: Analysis & Evidence

# Policy Option 1

Description: Implement the online guilty plea/automated fixed fine process for in-scope cases

## FULL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

Price Base Year	PV Base Year	Time Period Years	Net Benefit (Present Value (PV)) (£m)		
			Low: Optional	High: Optional	Best Estimate:

COSTS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Cost (Present Value)
Low	Optional	Optional	Optional
High	Optional	Optional	Optional
Best Estimate			

### Description and scale of key monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

None Identified.

### Other key non-monetised costs by 'main affected groups'

The cost to HMCTS associated with the development and maintenance of the online plea and automated fixed fine sentencing tool. At this early stage of policy development, it has not been possible to quantify costs and benefits: instead we have provided qualitative assessment of the impact. There may be increased costs to prosecutors resulting from new tasks around the decision to decide on plea / sentencing pathway.

BENEFITS (£m)	Total Transition (Constant Price) Years	Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)	Total Benefit (Present Value)
Low	Optional	Optional	Optional
High	Optional	Optional	Optional
Best Estimate			

### Description and scale of key monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

None identified.

### Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups'

HMCTS would accrue savings from the reduction in magistrates' and court staff's workload, and from reductions in estate space needed: magistrates' time would be freed up for more complex cases, and space made available in the courts' estate. As above, these have not been quantified at this point.  
 Faster process for defendants: sight of expected penalty before accepting the charge/fine  
 Time saved by defendants no longer having to wait for sentencing related correspondence and decisions to be made.  
 Increased choice of routes in the justice system.

### Key assumptions/sensitivities/risks

Discount rate (%)

0

Effective safeguards are needed to the mitigate risk of defendants making uninformed decisions, or being inappropriately channelled into the process.  
 If some of those who want to engage digitally are unable to, access to justice would be compromised and volumes would be impacted: assisted digital arrangement will need to be put in place.  
 It is assumed that a prosecutor will make the decision to filter cases into this process.  
 The concept of an 'algorithm' to determine suitability of cases for the process / penalty (i.e. driving offences) may invite challenge.

## BUSINESS ASSESSMENT (Option 1)

Direct impact on business (Equivalent Annual) £m:			Score for Business Impact Target (qualifying provisions only) £m:
Costs:	Benefits:	Net:	

## **A. Background**

1. In line with HMCTS Reform efforts to simplify and digitise the criminal justice system, it has been identified that many cases are relatively simple and could be resolved outside of a physical court room, saving time and effort for the defendant and alleviating pressure on the court system.
2. Approximately 890,000 cases a year involve summary-only, non-imprisonable offences where there is no identifiable victim. This is half of all cases heard in the magistrates' courts. The Government are also already making steps to deal with some of these cases outside of the court room.
3. Many defendants already choose to enter their plea by post: over the next 18 months, it is planned to roll out a mechanism which will allow them to do so online.
4. By the end of the year, defendants across England and Wales will be able to have their cases dealt with via the Single Justice Procedure (SJP), where a single magistrate can proportionately deal with routine cases on the papers without the need to sit in court.
5. It is proposed to further digitise this area so that some of these cases would be in-scope to progress through an online process which issues a predetermined fixed fine on entering a guilty plea and removes the need for a magistrate to be involved.
6. As with the SJP, outcome information would be made available to the public.
7. As this is an online process, access to justice could be compromised if some of those who want to engage digitally are unable to: assisted digital arrangement will need to be put in place.
8. This consultation is seeking feedback on the principles of this process, the proposed safeguards and the type of offences deemed in-scope.

## **B. Policy Rationale and Objectives**

### **Policy Rationale**

9. The current process for summary-only, non-imprisonable offences where there is no identifiable victim involves the Single Justice Procedure (SJP) where one magistrate handles the case on the papers rather than the need for a full court hearing, will be fully rolled out across England and Wales by the end of 2016. However this process would still involve magistrates' and legal advisors' time on routine work and the government believes this does not represent optimal value for money for the taxpayer.
10. Therefore, the policy objective to allow defendants to resolve their cases entirely online, faster and more easily, with certainty of the penalty imposed and the ability to pay fines immediately. Under the preferred option, magistrates and legal advisors would spend less time on this routine work, allowing their time and space in court buildings to be focused on more complex cases.
11. The preferred option also reflects broader departmental objectives of digitising services, including the ability to make more decisions 'on the papers', move hearings to telephone and video conferences where appropriate and interact with parties involved via digital means such as web portals and email.

### **Economic Rationale**

12. The conventional economic rationales for Government intervention are based on efficiency or equity arguments. Government intervenes if there is a perceived failure in the way a market operates

("market failures") or to correct existing institutional distortions ("government failures"). Government also intervenes for equity ("fairness") reasons.

13. The proposal to introduce an online guilty plea and fixed fine process aims to address the objective of efficiency. Simplifying the current process further by providing an entirely online process for some of the least complex cases, which would issue a conviction and fixed fine for defendants who plead guilty, removing the need for magistrates' involvement would increase efficiency and ensuring that Magistrates' time is focused on more complex cases. In addition, by reducing the need for physical court hearings, the preferred option would result in reduced need for space in court buildings.

### **C. Affected Stakeholder Groups, Organisations and Sectors**

14. Below is a list of the main parties who would be affected by this options considered in this Impact Assessment (IA):

- Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal Service (HMCTS) - which administers the criminal justice system.
- Magistrates – individuals who administer justice in Magistrate's Courts
- Legal Advisers – Individuals who advise magistrates on the law.
- Defendants – individuals accused of committing a criminal act.
- Prosecutors – those who prosecute criminals on behalf of public bodies or private businesses, including the police.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector and Assisted Digital providers – groups who provide support to those who need help to navigate the justice system, and/or to make use of digital channels.

### **D. Description of Option Considered**

15. In order to meet the policy objectives, the following options are considered in this IA:

- **Option 0: Do nothing (base case) – All eligible cases would continue to be channelled through the SJP.**
- **Option 1: Implementing the online guilty plea and automated fixed fine process for in-scope cases (which would not include motoring offences), with the possibility of extending this to driving offences in the future.**

#### **Option 0: Base case (do nothing)**

16. Under the do nothing option cases would go through the existing SJP.

17. Under the SJP, the defendant receives a written charge and Single Justice Procedure Notice by post from the prosecutor. This contains details of the charge against him and the prosecutor's evidence. The defendant can engage directly with the court by making their plea in writing, including an option to do this online in some cases. The defendant retains the right to have a full hearing in open court but in not objecting to the SJP they waive that right – there is no requirement to agree to SJP and defendants can opt-out of the procedure in favour of a full hearing if they wish. If they plead not-guilty, they will have a hearing.

18. If the defendant fails to respond to the SJP Notice, the magistrate considers whether the relevant documents were served on the accused and if the potential sentence is appropriate to be imposed on conviction when the defendant has not engaged.

19. In processing SJP cases, the court hears no oral evidence and instead a single magistrate considers the documents served by the prosecution and defence. Although a hearing in open court is not required and the parties do not attend, there is still effectively a trial as the single magistrate determines whether the offence is proven on the basis of evidence given, and considers mitigation if provided.
20. The SJP has been tested in Lavender Hill Court since April 2015 and has been rolled out to other court areas in recent months. It has been well-received by magistrates, prosecutors and court staff and has improved the speed and efficiency with which cases are processed. We will be rolling this process out across England and Wales by the end of 2016.

### **Option 1: Introduce legislative reform**

21. This option would provide a fully automated sentencing tool to deliver the fixed fines which will allow defendants of the least serious cases (of summary-only, non-imprisonable offences where there is no identifiable victim) to resolve their cases entirely online with certainty of the penalty imposed and the ability to pay fines immediately without any involvement by a Magistrate.
22. Under this option, although the process of issuing a conviction and fine would be automatic on receipt of a guilty plea, the prosecutor would decide if the defendant's case was suitable for this 'fixed fine' in the event of a guilty plea before channelling the case into this process.
23. Only non-imprisonable offences where there was no identifiable victim would be in scope of the scheme. There could also be other limitations on whether a case could be considered appropriate or not; for example, persistent offenders might not be suitable. Assisted Digital arrangements would be in place to help those who have difficulty engaging with the online process to participate where appropriate. Listings and results would be published.
24. A number of safeguards are proposed to ensure the process would only be used in appropriate circumstances:
  - Only specified summary only, non-imprisonable offences would be eligible for this process; where the offence does not have an identifiable victim, is relatively straightforward and a fixed penalty may be appropriate.
  - The defendant would have to actively opt-in by entering a guilty plea online and agreeing to this process. If the defendant wishes to plead guilty but does not wish to accept the fixed fine or the online conviction (for example, because they want to explain mitigating circumstances or provide information about their means) they can instead choose to have a magistrate consider that information via the Single Justice Procedure or have their case heard in court. Pleading not guilty would mean the case is automatically listed for trial.
  - Prosecutors would have discretion as to whether a particular case is suitable for this process in light of the evidence or aggravating factors such as repeat offending.
  - All prosecutors will still be required to meet the statutory test for prosecution – that is there is sufficient evidence to prosecute and it is in the public interest. Prosecutors will remain accountable for their decisions.
  - Defendants would be presented with all the relevant evidence against them and the potential consequences, such as the disclosure regime for the conviction. Before electing to go down this route, they would be given details of the prospective fixed fine (and any additional elements such as compensation or costs) to allow defendants to make an informed decision.
  - Defendants would be able to seek help to engage with the process through assisted digital channels if they wished.

- The court would have the power to reverse a conviction and have the matter retried, in the event that the defendant did not understand the consequences of their decision to accept the conviction and total penalty.
  - Current early guilty plea discounts would continue to apply whether the guilty plea was entered online or in other ways (e.g. via post).
  - Defendants who are unable to pay the total penalty immediately would be able to agree a repayment plan.
  - If, in the future, driving offences which carry penalty points are brought into scope of this process, there will be a system to handle points and the potential for disqualification via “totting up”, to remove cases that are not appropriate for the online system.
25. We envisage testing the new process by introducing a limited range of offences to begin with: these would have no likelihood of a driving ban. We believe that the following offences would also be suitable for introducing the online conviction and fixed fine process into the court system:
- Railway fare evasion
  - Tram fare evasion
  - Possession of unlicensed rod and line
26. In due course we would plan to bring other non-imprisonable offences, mainly road traffic offences, into the system. We envisage that mandatory penalty points (for example, for speeding offences) could be dealt with in the same way that they are currently dealt with by the Fixed Penalty Notice procedure – although it would be necessary to ensure that defendants would not be disqualified through the ‘totting-up’ rule. If a defendant faced disqualification, the case would have to be referred to the full court procedure.
27. We also are considering introducing provisions which would allow criminal offences which fit the existing criteria to be added to the process via secondary legislation in future as appropriate.

## **E. Costs and Benefits Analysis**

28. This IA identifies both monetised and non-monetised impacts of the proposed policy on individuals and groups in the UK. The costs and benefits of the policy option are compared to the “do nothing” option. IAs place a strong emphasis on valuing costs and benefits in monetary terms. However, there are important aspects that cannot readily be monetised – e.g., the effects on particular groups of society or changes in equity and fairness.
29. As the ‘do nothing’ option is compared against itself, the costs and benefits are necessarily zero. The costs and benefits of Option 1 are measured relative to those of the ‘do nothing’ option. At this early stage of policy development, it has not been possible to quantify costs and benefits: instead we have provided qualitative assessment of the impact.

### ***Costs of Option 1***

#### *HMCTS*

30. HMCTS would incur the implementation costs of the new tool which includes a provision for pleading guilty online, an automated sentencing tool and potentially an online payment tool. These costs would include system development costs as well as project and procurement costs.
31. HMCTS would also incur the ongoing maintenance and operating cost of this online plea / automated sentencing tool.

#### *Defendants*

32. As mentioned in the benefits section, whilst some defendants may face increased fines under a standard fee system, others may face reduced fees. It is not possible to determine the percentage of defendants who would gain or lose under the standard fees process.

#### *Prosecutors*

33. There could be additional work for prosecutors who may be involved in the decision to channel defendants into the automated process, though this is likely to be largely similar to the SJP.

#### *3<sup>rd</sup> Sector*

34. Defendants may seek the advice of 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector organisations before making a decision on accepting an online guilty plea followed by automated sentencing. If there is an increase in demand for these services then these organisations may experience resource pressures which may result in additional costs. This is expected to be of limited impact.

#### *Assisted Digital providers*

35. There may be additional costs for Assisted Digital providers as they support additional users who require help in engaging with this online process, though this is likely to be limited compared to requirements of the Single Justice Procedure (our baseline).

### **Benefits of Option 1**

#### *HMCTS*

36. HMCTS would benefit from a more automated, streamlined process in which an online guilty plea is followed by the issue of an automated standard statutory fine for those defendants who meet the agreed criteria.

37. Automation of such cases could help improve the management of uncontested caseloads in the criminal courts

38. It could lead to a reduction in the demand for court capacity, as more cases could be resolved remotely without the intervention of a magistrate.

#### *Magistrates*

39. Magistrates would spend less time on routine work, allowing their time to be focused on more complex cases

#### *Legal Advisers*

40. Any reduction in magistrates time required to deal with these cases would result in an associated reduction in the time required of legal advisers.

#### *Defendants*

41. Defendants who are eligible and consent to automatic sentencing may benefit in a number of ways.

42. Being sentenced when entering a guilty plea online would lead to quicker resolution of the case, compared to the SJP or in the event the case would have ended up in court. Quicker resolution of a case would save defendants time associated with non-automatic sentencing such as waiting for sentence related correspondence and waiting for decisions to be made.

43. The current system sees a range of fines being handed out for the same offences. As the online fixed fine process would inform defendants upfront of the fine that they will receive, they would have more certainty over the outcome before accepting the charge.

44. If a fixed fine is introduced then some defendants may benefit financially, if they would have received a fine under current rules that is higher than the future fixed fine.
45. Defendants should benefit from this automated process if they find it easier to understand and engage with than the current process.

#### *Prosecutors*

46. Prosecutors are likely to see limited impacts: the process to enter cases for the online fixed fine process is envisaged to be similar to that of the SJP which is already being rolled out.

#### *Assisted Digital providers*

47. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector and Assisted Digital providers are likely to see limited impacts: cases eligible for this process are a subset of SJP cases, which is already being rolled out and is a similarly remote-accesses solution.

## **F. Risks and Assumptions**

48. The costs and benefits in this IA are based on the following assumptions:

- Volumes have been predicted based on current guilty plea rates for in-scope offence types.
- All of those who want to engage with the process will have access to the relevant technology, with appropriate Assisted Digital support arrangements in place.
- Prosecutors will be comfortable with the new process and use it for all eligible cases.
- Appropriate legislation will be passed to allow all offences deemed in-scope to be included in the new process.
- Safeguards will be fully implemented, and technically possible.
- If driving offences are deemed in scope, an algorithm to deem eligibility will be accurate and fast.

49. The following risks are associated with the costs and benefits in this IA:

- If volumes are lower than predicted, savings could be impacted. As this would be a new process, take-up rates under the preferred option are hard to predict.
- If some of those who want to engage digitally are unable to, access to justice would be compromised and volumes would be impacted.
- Prosecutors may not make use of the process if administratively burdensome or over complex.
- If legislation is not passed, it will not be possible to implement the process.
- Without appropriate safeguards, those who are not eligible for the process may be mistakenly included.
- If an automated decision cannot be made regarding the appropriateness of driving offences, human interaction will be required and time / cost savings reduced.

## **G. Implementation**

50. It is planned to implement the initial tranche of offence types from 2018.

## **H. Monitoring and Evaluation**

51. Responses to the consultation will be taken into consideration when introducing this measure. It is intended to begin with an initial tranche of offence types before rolling out the process further.



## Equalities statement – online convictions and statutory fixed fines

### **Policy Change Summary**

1. For certain routine, low-level summary, non-imprisonable offences with no identifiable victim, we propose to implement a system whereby defendants will be able to resolve their cases entirely online. They will log on to an online system to see the evidence against them before entering a plea. Defendants who plead guilty will have the option to go through the online system where they can view the penalty, accept the conviction and penalty, and pay their fine. This will allow cases to be resolved immediately and entirely online, with no need for the involvement of a magistrate.
2. The objectives of this policy are set out in the consultation document.
3. We will consider whether we need to amend our equality considerations in light of the responses to the consultation.

### **Equality duties**

4. The Public Sector Equality Duty comprises three limbs, set out in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010 whereby a public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard of the need to:
  - (i). Eliminate discrimination (both direct and indirect), harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by the Act;
  - (ii). Advance equality of opportunity between persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not. This includes removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristic (PC), taking steps to meet the needs of people who share a particular PC, and encouraging participation in public life.
  - (iii). Foster good relations between persons sharing a relevant PC and persons who do not. This includes tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
5. Paying “due regard” needs to be considered against the nine “protected characteristics” under the Act, namely: race, sex, disability, sexual orientation, religion and belief, age, marriage and civil partnership, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity.

### **Equality considerations**

#### **Direct discrimination**

6. The proposal to introduce online convictions and statutory fixed fines is not directly discriminatory within the meaning of the Equality Act as it does not impact unfavourably on people with protected characteristics.

#### **Indirect discrimination**

7. It is unknown whether particular groups will be more or less likely to use the new online system. As it is an online service, the following categories may be less likely to engage with fixed fine process though assisted digital services will be in place to prevent this where possible:
  - Age: A 2014 survey by the Office of National Statistics, shows that Age is a key factor as to whether an individual has ever used the Internet. Almost all adults aged 16 to 24 years (99%) had ever used the Internet (7.1 million people). In contrast, only 37% of adults aged 75 years and over had ever used the Internet, representing 1.8 million people<sup>1</sup>. This indicates that older people are less likely to engage with the online fixed fine process.

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<sup>1</sup> 'Internet Access Quarterly Update: Q1 2014', Office of National Statistics, <http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/householdcharacteristics/homeinternetandsocialmediausage/bulletins/internetaccessquarterlyupdate/2014-05-14>

- **Disability:** Individuals with a disability are approximately four times more likely to have never used the Internet than individuals without a disability and so may be less likely to choose to engage with the online fixed fine process<sup>2</sup>.
8. Summary offences which resulted in a fine in 2015, so potentially in scope for this measure, involved more than twice as many males as females (510,543 compared to 251, 372<sup>3</sup>.) We do not have detailed information around age, race or other protected characteristics for this group.
  9. 57% of magistrates are aged 60 or over, 53% are female and 91% are White<sup>4</sup>. As this measure proposes to remove some of the more routine work from Magistrates' workloads, these groups will be more impacted than others. It is not possible at this point to determine if this impact will be positive or negative.

### ***Discrimination arising from disability and duty to make reasonable adjustments***

10. As per paragraph 7, disabled defendants are less likely to engage with this online process without assistance. Reasonable adjustments are being made: there will be alternative methods of engagement and assisted digital channels will be in place.

### ***Harassment and victimisation***

11. We do not consider there to be a risk of harassment or victimisation as a result of the proposals that will be implemented.

### ***Advancing equality of opportunity***

12. Consideration has been given to how the proposal impacts on the duty to advance equality of opportunity; assisted digital arrangements will be in place for those who want to engage with the process but may find digital channels challenging, though those who do not make use of these and instead progress through non-automated channels will not benefit from the additional speed and certainty gained through the new process.

### ***Fostering good relations***

13. Consideration has been given to how the proposal impacts on the duty to advance the fostering of good relations between people who have a protected characteristic and those who do not; we do not believe that this is of any relevance to these proposals.

### **Summary**

14. Our assessment of the equality impacts is that this proposal will not result in any direct discrimination but could potentially indirectly impact some groups which have protected characteristics. Safeguards will be in place to mitigate these where appropriate. We are satisfied that the proposal is lawful as it is a necessary and proportionate means of achieving the policy aims set out in the consultation document.
15. The exact nature of any potential indirect impacts cannot be fully assessed until the decisions have been made around which case types are eligible for this process and what the appropriate fixed fines for these should be.

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<sup>2</sup> 'Internet Access Quarterly Update: Q1 2014', Office of National Statistics, <http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/householdcharacteristics/homeinternetandsocialmediausage/bulletins/internetaccessquarterlyupdate/2014-05-14>

<sup>3</sup> 'Trends in activity in the criminal justice system from January 2014 to December 2014', Ministry of Justice, 2015. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2015>

<sup>4</sup> 'Judicial Statistics 2015', Courts and Tribunals Judiciary, 2015, <https://www.judiciary.gov.uk/publications/judicial-statistics-2015/>

## Analysis

### Internet Use by Disability Status (%)

Notes		
Unit	%	
	Equality Act disabled	No disability
Q2 2013	33.2	8.4
Q3 2013	32.9	8.3
Q4 2013	31.1	7.9
Q1 2014	30.3	7.5

Source: 'Internet Access Quarterly Update: Q1 2014', Office of National Statistics, <http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/householdcharacteristics/homeinternetandsocialmediausage/bulletins/internetaccessquarterlyupdate/2014-05-14>

### Summary Offences Resulting in a Fine by Gender – 2015

Values	1: Male	2: Female	3: Other	4: Not known	Total
Fine	510,543	251,372	6,943	69,959	838,817
%	60.86	29.97	00.83	8.34	

Source: 'Trends in activity in the criminal justice system from January 2015 to December 2015', Ministry of Justice, 2015. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2014>

### Serving Magistrates by Advisory Committee Areas, England and Wales, as at 1 April 2015

	Gender		
	Total	Male	Female
Total	19,634	9,221	10,413
Percentages		46.96%	53.04%

	Age				
	<30	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 & Over
Total	75	516	2,202	5,621	11,220
Percentages	0.38%	2.63%	11.22%	28.63%	57.15%

	Ethnicity						
	White	Mixed	Black	Asian	Chinese	Any Other	Unknown
Total	17,803	136	591	913	46	142	*
Percentages	90.67%	0.69%	3.01%	4.65%	0.23%	0.72%	0.02%

Source: 'Judicial Statistics 2015', Courts and Tribunals Judiciary, 2015, Source: 'Judicial Statistics 2015', Courts and Tribunals Judiciary, 2015, <https://www.judiciary.gov.uk/publications/judicial-statistics-2015/>

