

6 March 2013

**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

### **SECRETARY OF STATE PATRICK MCLOUGHLIN GETS BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT CRACKDOWN ON UNINSURED DRIVING**

The Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP, visited the Motor Insurers' Bureau earlier this week, ahead of speaking at the Association of British Insurers' Motor Conference. He was joined by the MP for Milton Keynes South, Iain Stewart, and the MP for Milton Keynes North, Mark Lancaster.

MIB works closely with the Department for Transport on a variety of initiatives such as Continuous Insurance Enforcement (CIE). CIE systematically compares records between MIB's Motor Insurance Database with those held on the DVLA registered vehicle database to identify keepers of potentially uninsured vehicles.

Currently there are 1.2 million uninsured motorists on our roads, with the cost of uninsured driving to law abiding motorists estimated at around £30 per year on each policy. In the UK, about 26,500 people are injured and 130 people killed by uninsured and untraced drivers every year.

After meeting with MIB's Chairman, Keith Morris, and Chief Executive, Ashton West, the Transport Secretary visited our contact centre, which answers calls from members of the public to advise them on the motor insurance law and requirements.

He was also able to see the work of our dedicated Police Helpline, which assists officers with decisions at the roadside on whether motorists have valid insurance in place. The Police Helpline and contact centre answered 208,414 calls in 2012.

The Transport Secretary said: "It was fascinating to visit the contact centre at the MIB today to see first hand the important role the MIB play in tackling uninsured driving; I am very grateful for the commitment and support they have given to innovations such as Continuous Insurance Enforcement which enable us to increase compliance, and reduce motor insurance fraud."

**ENDS**



*Pictured (left to right): Iain Stewart MP (Milton Keynes South), MIB Chief Executive Ashton West, MIB Chairman Keith Morris, Secretary of State for Transport Patrick McLoughlin MP, Special Advisor to the Secretary Julian Glover, Mark Lancaster MP (Milton Keynes North)*

*Hi-res image available on request*

**MIB Press Office (an ISDN line is available for interviews)**

Kate Slater on 01908 82 1935 or out of hours on 07595 551 608 and email at [k Slater@mib.org.uk](mailto:k Slater@mib.org.uk)

Natalie Lepper on 01908 42 2393 or out of hours on 07730 517 635 and email at [nlepper@mib.org.uk](mailto:nlepper@mib.org.uk)

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

**Notes to editors**

MIB aims to significantly reduce the level and impact of uninsured driving by working closely with partners across government and the insurance industry. The Bureau provides compensation to innocent victims involved in accidents with drivers who have no insurance or failed to stop.

The Motor Insurance Database (MID), introduced in 2001 is the only central insurance record of more than 37 million vehicles in the UK. The MID supports a range of users entitled to different levels of information about insured vehicles, including the police, solicitors, the DVLA and the public.

The MID is being used as part of a continuous insurance enforcement (CIE) scheme introduced in 2011 to identify registered keepers of vehicles that appear to have no insurance. The registered keeper of a vehicle without insurance will receive a letter reminding them that insurance is a legal requirement and failure to act will result in a fixed penalty. All drivers can check their vehicle is recorded on the MID for FREE - visit [www.askMID.com](http://www.askMID.com).