

## The new '73 plates have hundreds of banned combinations



Along with the latest '73 series of numberplates arriving on new vehicles from 1 September 2023, comes a long list of hundreds of combinations banned by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) as being unsuitable for use on the road.

The DVLA will not issue certain combinations of letters that may appear to spell specific offensive words or phrases such as BE73 END, BO73 LOX, EA73 POO, LE73 ZBO or SH73 HOT. And with over a million new combinations available it's probably not surprising that some of them are more than likely to cause offence, embarrassment or are in poor taste.

Many of the banned plates are aimed at specific groups such as Covid vaccinations (AN73 VAX), wars (AN73 WAR) and the new clean air zones (AN73 LEZ) along with ones against certain countries such as HA73 RUS or HA73 USA.

Arguably there are many of those banned which have very limited potential for offence, but the DVLA is always extremely cautious in these matters rather than risking offending certain elements of society. Personal registrations are an extremely lucrative source of revenue for HM Government and the DVLA is merely protecting its income stream.



*Image RNC*