

## New light vehicle WoF inspection frequency to be introduced from January 2014



The government has announced that the changes to the warrant of fitness inspection system, agreed by Cabinet in January this year, will be introduced in two stages.

From **1 January 2014**, light vehicles first registered anywhere between 2004 and 2008 will move to annual, rather than the current six-monthly warrant of fitness inspection. They will remain on annual inspections for their lifetime.

From **1 July 2014**, annual inspections will be extended to include all light vehicles first registered anywhere on or after 1 January 2000. Also from this date new vehicles will have an initial inspection, another one when they're three years old, then annual inspections for their lifetime.

Vehicles first registered anywhere before 1 January 2000 will remain on six-monthly inspections for their lifetime.

Note 1: The requirement for vehicles to get a new WoF within one month before the date of delivery to a purchaser has not changed. So vehicles less than three years old must get a new WoF when they are sold.

Note 2: From 11 November 2013, light and heavy agricultural vehicles that require a WoF will be on annual WoFs for life. All other heavy vehicles on a WoF will keep their current inspection frequencies, ie annual WoF for vehicles up to six years old and six-month WoF for vehicles over six years old.

The changes are summarised by this table (new inspection frequencies are highlighted in red):

Date of first registration	Frequency of WoF inspection from 1 January 2014	Frequency of WoF inspection from 1 July 2014
2012-14	annual	** WoF to third birthday OR annual WoF
2009-11	annual	annual
2004-08*	annual WoF	annual WoF
2000-03	6-month WoF	annual WoF
Pre 2000	6-month WoF	6-month WoF

\* These vehicles join the group of vehicles that are currently younger than six years old on annual inspections.

\*\* The expiry date of the WoF will depend on how much time has elapsed since the vehicle was first registered.

# The two-stage phase-in

Phasing-in the new inspection frequency requirements is designed to even out the impacts of the changes which would otherwise create seasonal demand for vehicle inspections.

## New labels

New labels are being designed to account for WoFs being issued for up to three years. They'll also remove the need to return unused labels each July.

The new labels will need to be clipped twice – one for the month as per usual, and one for the year as well. They've been developed so you'll be able to use your existing clippers on them.

You'll receive the new-look labels when you order your 2015 stock. However, you'll be able to use your remaining 2014 labels for six-month warrants until June next year and return any leftovers to Wickliffe as per usual to have the WoF levy refunded.

Here's an early draft of what the new label could look like:

The image shows a draft of a Warrant of Fitness (WoF) label. It features the NZ Transport Agency logo at the top left. The main text reads "Warrant of Fitness". Below this is a row of four boxes containing the numbers 14, 15, 16, and 17. To the right of the main text is a form with several fields: "ISSUED BY:", "REGN NO:", "SYSTEM AUTH NO:", "EXPIRES:" (with a date field), and "TB 160473". There is also a checkbox labeled "TICK IF OFFLINE" and a note "WoF NOT VALID UNLESS COMPLETED". At the bottom, it says "Check your brakes, lights and tyres regularly" and another row of four boxes containing the numbers 17, 16, 15, and 14. The entire draft is overlaid with a large "DRAFT" watermark. Numbered callouts 1 through 12 point to various elements of the label design.

# Updating the VIRM

The above information will be covered in more detail in a VIRM amendment towards the end of this year, to come into effect on 1 January 2014. Watch out for notifications on the vehicle inspection portal, WoF-online and Landata systems.

## Communicating the changes to the public

We're developing a brochure to help explain to motorists if or when their car will be eligible for a different inspection frequency. We'll let you know when the flyers are available and send them out, at no cost to you, to give out to your customers. (The brochure includes the handy table over the page that summarises the changes).

Closer to the January start date, we'll also publicise the changes via the media and our website.

The main message we're telling motorists is that they won't have to do anything different. When they take their vehicle for inspection at its next due date, their inspection agent will assign the appropriate date for its subsequent visit.

## Public information campaign

An important part of the package of changes is a public information campaign to remind people about their responsibility to ensure their vehicle is roadworthy at all times.

The information campaign is due to get underway later this year. It's likely to reach motorists through a range of media including advertising at vehicle-related locations and on radio, a website and brochures. The information campaign will be supported by focused police enforcement activities.



For more general information, visit [www.nzta.govt.nz/wof](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/wof).

Email: [licensingreform@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:licensingreform@nzta.govt.nz)

The vehicle inspection portal will be updated with specific information.



New Zealand Government