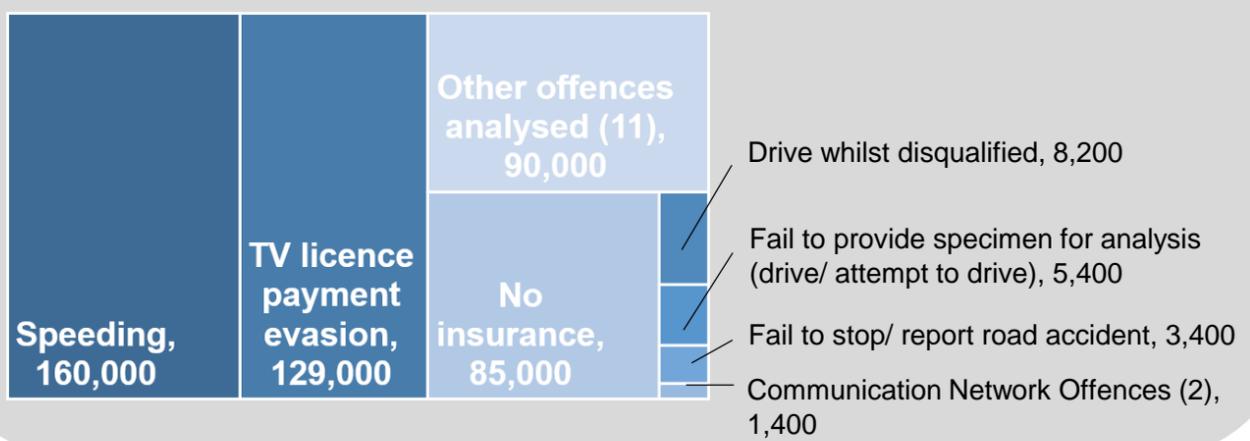


The update to the Sentencing Council's *Magistrates' Court Sentencing Guidelines (MCSG)* came into force in April 2017. The guideline applies to adults only.

This assessment considers the impact of the guidelines on sentences for 19 offences. **The number of adult offenders sentenced for these 19 MCSG offences in 2017:**



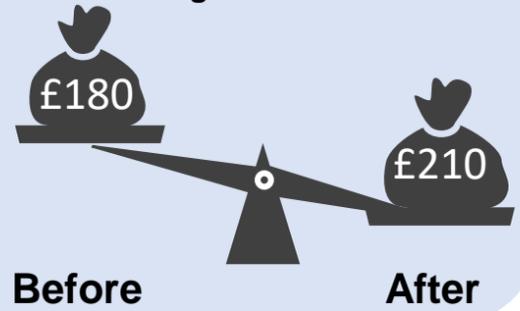
Speeding

The vast majority of offenders sentenced received a fine both before and after the guideline came into force. There was a small increase in the average value of fines, as expected.*

Proportion of offenders receiving a fine



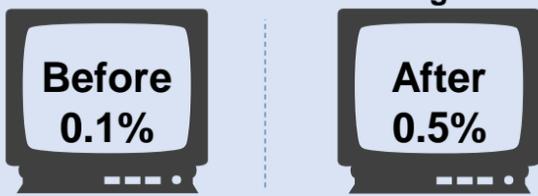
Average fine values



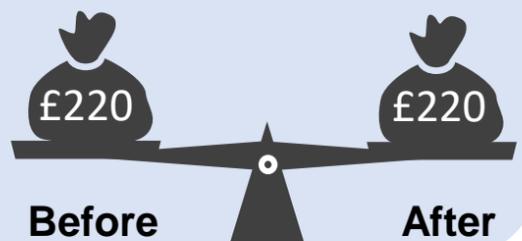
TV licence payment evasion

There was a small shift from the use of fines to conditional discharges, and the average value of fines remained the same, as expected.*

Proportion of offenders receiving a conditional discharge



Average fine values



Drive whilst disqualified

There was a small shift from suspended sentence orders to fines, which was not expected.* It is not clear whether the guideline or other factors caused this.

Discharge

Before

After

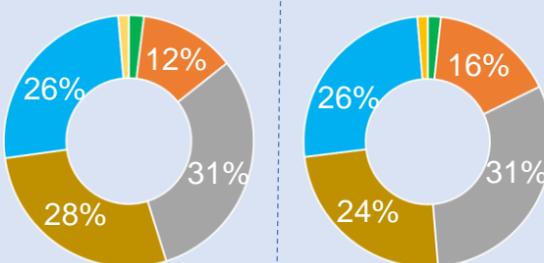
Fine

COs

SSOs

Immediate custody

Other



Fail to provide specimen for analysis (drive/ attempt to drive) and fail to stop/ report road accident

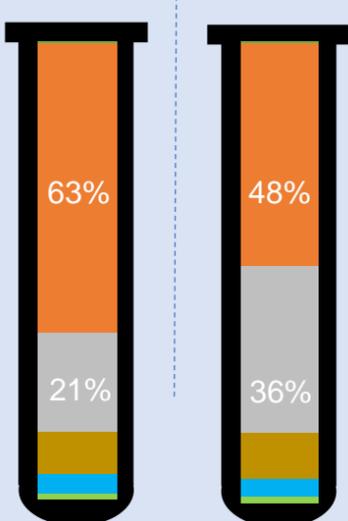
There was a shift from fines to community orders.

Fail to provide a specimen for analysis (drive/ attempt to drive)

Fail to stop/report road accident

Before

After



Discharge

Fine

COs

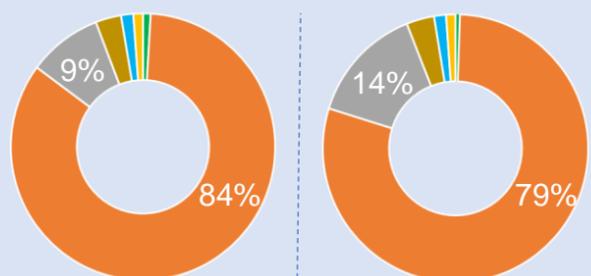
SSOs

Immediate custody

Other

Before

After



Communication Network Offences

There was no change to average sentencing severity, as expected.*



No insurance and all other offences considered

There was no change to average sentencing severity.



The Council has considered this analysis and is content that the guideline is working well. The guideline will continue to be monitored over time.

Source: Court Proceedings Database, Ministry of Justice.

* For further details of these findings, and details of the guideline's expected impact on sentence levels, please access the full report at:

<https://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk/?cat=guideline-assessment>