

What the proposed Toll Saver is

Vehicles using an e-tag will be rewarded for undertaking their journeys at off-peak times rather than at peak times via an annual tax credit.

Motorists will be able to claim tax relief for 20% of their toll costs undertaken at non-peak travel periods (mid-week) up to a maximum of €200.

The objective of this scheme will be to encourage more users of the key arterial, tolled routes to undertake their commute during off-peak times (between 5am and 7am in morning; between 3pm-4pm and 7-8pm).

Based on our analysis of traffic count data on these routes, we estimate that approximately 38,500 private cars can be redistributed from peak to off-peak hour commuting times

It is estimated that approximately 77,000 daily commuters could benefit from Toll Saver at a cost of €7 million to the exchequer.

How we arrived at the €7 million costing

We used AADT data from Traffic Counters ([available online from the TII](#)) at the closest location to each of the 12 tolling points around the country. By this count there are 263,526 cars passing through tolls each day (once we subtracted the percentage of HGV traffic).

Based on the CSO [analysis](#) of Census 2011 responses on commuter habits, 16% of commuters leave before 7am each morning. We assumed (conservatively) that giving this incentive would result in 32% of private car daily commuters travelling (passing through one of these tolls) at off-peak times (between 5am and 7am, between 3pm and 4pm and between 7pm and 8pm).

We estimated the annual cost of tolls for each tolling point, for a commuter passing each day on their way to work, for 233 days per year.

We multiplied 32% of the number of private car passengers passing each tolling point by the annualised cost of a toll for a private car.

This works out as 77,035 private car users, spending an average of €468 per annum on tolls and eligible to claim back 20% of this via a tax credit. In total this would be €7.32 million per annum.

Area	List of Tolls	AADT 2015*	% HGV	Number Private Passenger Cars Daily	Toll Rate for Private Car	Working Days in 2016	Annual Cost of Toll (one way)	% Cars Leaving Before 7am at Present (2011)	% Cars Leaving Before 7am (and Before 5pm) After Introduction of Tax Credit	Estimated Reduction in Peak Hour Cars	Estimated Total Number of Claimants	Estimated Cost of Tax Credit (euros, millions)
Cork	N8 Rathcormac - Fermoy Bypass	16439	0.09	14927	1.90	233	443	0.16	0.32	2388	4777	0.42
Galway	N6 Galway - Ballinasloe	2785	0.03	2715	1.90	233	443	0.16	0.32	434	869	0.08
GDA	M1 Motorway (Gormanston to Monasterboice Toll Road)	13167	0.03	12746	1.90	233	443	0.16	0.32	2039	4079	0.36
GDA	M3 Clonee-Kells (Clonee-Dunshaughlin)	6993	0.03	6769	1.40	233	326	0.16	0.32	1083	2166	0.14
GDA	M3 Clonee-Kells (Navan-Kells)	6993	0.03	6769	1.40	233	326	0.16	0.32	1083	2166	0.14
GDA	M4 Kilcock - Enfield - Kinnegad Motorway	8529	0.09	7796	2.90	233	676	0.16	0.32	1247	2495	0.34
GDA	M7/M8 Portlaoise - Castletown/Portlaoise - Cullahill	11644	0.09	10573	1.90	233	443	0.16	0.32	1692	3383	0.30
GDA	Dublin Tunnel	15000	0.40	9000	3.00	233	699	0.16	0.32	1440	2880	0.40

GDA	M50 Barrier Free Tolling	12192	9	0.08	112053	2.10	233	489	0.16	0.32	17928	35857	3.51
GDA	The East Link Toll Bridge	13167	0.03	12746	1.90	233	443	0.16	0.32	2039	4079	0.36	
Limerick	Limerick Tunnel	35443	0.04	34132	1.90	233	443	0.16	0.32	5461	10922	0.97	
Waterford	N25 Waterford City Bypass	11437	0.08	10511	1.90	233	443	0.16	0.32	1682	3363	0.30	
National Total		26352	6	0.09	240735	2.01	233	468	0.16	0.32	38518	77035	7.32

*Since AADT is counted as cars passing per day in both directions, do not include round trips