

# Crackdown on LED headlights that dazzle other drivers: Glare from bright bulbs on modern cars set to be reviewed by the Government after more than two thirds of motorists warned the beams are too intense



## [Three quarters of drivers blinded by other's headlights](#)

By [KATHERINE LAWTON](#) and [SAM MERRIMAN](#)

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The glare from bright LED bulbs on modern car headlights is set to be reviewed by the Government over concerns they dazzle drivers.

The move follows a campaign by the RAC and a petition signed by more than 10,000 people who complained about the dangers.

A survey by the motoring group found more than two thirds of drivers have been forced to slow down after being dazzled by intense beams.

The poll of 2,000 found 89 per cent think some car headlights are too bright and 85 per cent believe headlight glare is getting worse.

The RAC believes this is due to the use of LED rather than traditional halogen bulbs on modern cars and the growing popularity of four-wheel drive, and SUV models, which sit higher on the road.

The Department for Transport said independent research would be commissioned to 'better understand the root causes of driver glare and identify any further appropriate mitigations'.



**Ministers are set to launch a review into drivers being dazzled by headlights after a survey revealed nearly nine in ten think they are too bright**

Official figures show that since 2013 there have been an average of 280 collisions on Britain's roads every year where dazzling headlights were a contributory factor. Of these, six a year resulted in somebody losing their life.

Baroness Hayter, who has also urged the Government to take action, said she was 'delighted the Government has recognised there is a real problem'.

Two-thirds - 67 per cent - of those affected by headlight glare said being dazzled forces them to slow down considerably, while 64 per cent believe some headlights are so bright they risk causing accidents.

RAC road safety spokesman Rod Dennis said: 'The fact the Government has listened to drivers' concerns and heeded our calls to examine the complex issue of headlight glare in more detail marks a real turning point.

'The topic has undoubtedly struck a chord with motorists up and down the country, with many people contacting us directly to call for something to be done.

'Brighter headlights, while giving drivers a better view of the road ahead, are clearly causing other road users significant problems.'



The RAC, which has campaigned on the issue, said the topic 'struck a chord with motorists' and the study will help 'get to the bottom of the problem'

In its response to the petition, the DfT also said international rules requiring new cars to have mandatory automatic headlight levelling based on the weight being carried were agreed by the United Nations in April last year and will come into force in September 2027.

The department expressed its belief that 'these tougher requirements will help alleviate the number of cases where road users are dazzled'.

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Mr Dennis said: 'We're aware of regulatory changes being made at an international level that will hopefully make a difference in many years to come, but are concerned that these alone may not be enough to address headlight dazzle.'

'There are also known shortcomings concerning the official road casualty data not accurately capturing the true number of incidents associated with headlight glare, so it's absolutely right that the topic is investigated properly to understand what can be done to keep everyone safe.'

'We look forward to working with the Department of Transport to help ensure the study is as robust as possible and drivers' voices are heard.'

Baroness Hayter, who has also urged the Government to take action over headlights, said: 'This is a victory for all those drivers affected by glare who've complained to their MP, signed the parliamentary petition, or indeed sought help from an optometrist only to discover the problem was with headlights, and not their eyes.'

'This is an issue the RAC has long campaigned on and I am delighted the Government has recognised there is a real problem. 'We look forward to discussing its research in due course.'

The survey of 2,000 UK drivers was carried out by research company Online95 in December 2023.