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"An extremely long time coming" - RAC reaction to today's fuel price cuts

Reacting to the news that retailers are finally starting to reduce fuel prices at UK forecourts, RAC fuel spokesperson Simon Williams said:

“While this is a welcome price cut, it has been an extremely long time coming. The cost of buying petrol on the wholesale market has dropped like a stone so we should be looking for at least 5p to come off the average price of unleaded at the pumps of 128.84p.

“On the face of it retailers are banking over £2.75 every time drivers fill-up their tanks with petrol. If they were playing fair and passing on the savings they are making as a result of lower wholesale prices then drivers would be enjoying a saving of this amount every time they visit the pumps. For this reason we believe Christmas has come early for fuel retailers across the board this year as they have been reaping the benefits of some of the biggest margins on fuel the RAC has seen in almost four years.

“We will be monitoring the effect of these latest price reductions on the UK average price of petrol carefully. The last round of supermarket cuts purported to take up to 2p per litre off unleaded, but RAC data shows that in reality just over a penny came off the average price of a litre of supermarket petrol – down from 127p per litre to just 125.36p. We badly need the three other supermarkets to keep up with Asda and to fully participate in a meaningful ‘supermarket pump price war’ – at the moment it’s sadly very much a cold war.

“The supermarkets’ role in influencing pricing at all other forecourts cannot be understated – without significant price movement from the big players in a falling wholesale market, there is little to encourage smaller retailers to

shift their own prices to the benefit of consumers.

“In addition, there is finally some respite for hard-pressed diesel drivers from seemingly never-ending price rises with a sizeable but very much warranted price cut.”

The press office email address is press.office@rac.co.uk and media centre is at media.rac.co.uk. **Please note:** the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the RAC contacts page to find the right contact.

About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC’s breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using myRAC – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the RAC website.

Contacts

Press office team
Press Contact
For journalist enquiries only
Emails monitored during normal office hours
press.office@rac.co.uk
ISDN number on request