DSA information letter

19 September 2012

Exploring on-road testing of motorcycle manoeuvres

The Driving Standards Agency (DSA) and Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) are looking for motorcycle trainers to help trial on-road manoeuvres. This is part of the review announced by the former Road Safety Minister to explore whether a single-event test can be conducted on-road. This review is funded by the Department for Transport.

The safety and feasibility of the proposed manoeuvres has already been assessed at off-road locations and some limited on-road trials have been conducted with experienced riders. We are now looking to test the safety and feasibility of the manoeuvres on public roads with test-ready learners. We would like trainers to recruit 'test ready' learners to help us evaluate these new manoeuvres on-road.

Why have I received this invitation to participate?

You have been invited to take part because you have recently brought candidates to a test centre within 30 miles of one of the sites that we will be using for the trials.

Who can take part?

From September to December, trainers can provide one or more learners who are training with them for a Category A, A1 or A2 motorcycle licence (so both large and small capacity motorcycles).

What's involved?

Each learner who wishes to take part **must** be trained for the new on-road manoeuvres. The manoeuvres that will be trialled on road are:

- a pushed U-turn
- a ridden U-turn
- a slalom
- an emergency brake (at 28–30mph)
- an avoidance exercise (at 28–30mph)

If you express interest in taking part TRL will provide you with more details of the on-road manoeuvres.

This study will compare the performance of each learner on the current Module 1 manoeuvres with their performance on the new on-road manoeuvres. Therefore, once learners have been trained to a 'test ready' standard, they will need to:

- attend an off-road site to carry out a practice of the Module 1 manoeuvres.
- attend an on-road site to carry out a practice of the new manoeuvres.
- answer some questions about each set of manoeuvres.

Learners will need to attend each site for up to 60 minutes. The two trials may be on the same day or they may be one day after another. In addition, as a trainer you will be required to prepare each learner to a 'test-ready' standard for both sets of manoeuvres and keep a training log of the time spent doing this.

What are the benefits of taking part?

This is an excellent opportunity to be involved in the development of the practical motorcycle test. The other benefits of taking part include:

- **£125 direct to trainers for each learner they bring to the trials.** This payment will help cover travel costs and training for the on-road manoeuvres.
- **£55 direct to each learner who participates.**
- additional practice on the Module 1 manoeuvres for learners, with the benefit of a DSA examiner being on site to conduct a genuine 'mock test' and give feedback

If you would like to take part, please contact TRL to express your interest by:

- Emailing bike@trl.co.uk
- Telephoning Simon on **01344 770378**

We hope you choose to get in touch and take part.

Kind regards

Driving Standards Agency