



29 January 2009

## NEWS UPDATES

### Booking Arrangements

The next edition of this newsletter will be issued next week.

It will include full details of the trainer booking arrangements for the new motorcycle test

### Are you getting your copy?

If you would prefer an electronic copy of this newsletter, please send an email to [cbt@dsa.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cbt@dsa.gsi.gov.uk)

### Free training slots for ATBs

There is still time to reserve free training slots on the MPTC Motorcycle Manoeuvring Areas (MMAs); simply sign and return the declaration form sent with our letter of 24 October.

### London MCN Motorcycle Show

We are exhibiting at the London MCN Show from 29 Jan—1 Feb. Come and see us at stand number **N80**

### Scottish MCN Motorcycle Show

We will be exhibiting at the Scottish MCN Show on 14 & 15 March. Further details of our stand number will be published in a future issue of this newsletter

## TWO-PART MOTORCYCLE TEST ANNOUNCED

Ministers have announced their decision to introduce a two-part modular practical motorcycling test, following a consultation paper published in November 2008 seeking views on five proposals.

The existing single-event test will be replaced by a new test that will be taken in two parts. Bookings will be taken from the 30 March at the latest, and DSA are looking at ways of bringing this date forward. The first tests will take place on 27 April.

**Module 1** will contain the specified manoeuvres element of the test which will be conducted off-road. It will include exercises designed to assess the rider's ability to control their machine safely, including avoidance and emergency stop exercises.

**Module 2** will include an eyesight test and at least 30 minutes of on road riding, assessing the rider's ability to safely interact with other road users.

DSA's Chief Executive Rosemary Thew said: "I would like to thank all those who took time to respond to our recent consultation on the future of the motorcycle test.

"We have listened to the motorcycling industry and introducing a two part test means we can provide more locations from which to conduct tests and offer a step-by-step, considered approach to learning to ride. Candidates will have time to absorb each separate important stage.

"DSA hopes to offer greater coverage of sites from which the Module 1 specified manoeuvres element of the test may be taken. We will also be able to use some of our existing test centres to conduct the on-road Module 2 tests. This should mean shorter journey times for candidates and trainers alike".

## DECISIONS ON THE FIVE PROPOSALS

### PROPOSAL 1: Introducing a split practical motorcycling test

Ministers have decided to implement a modular practical motorcycling test. This will allow DSA to deliver the test from a greater number of locations and offer improved coverage.

**229 responses were received to this proposal.** The majority (75%) were in favour; over 50% indicated they were in total agreement with the proposal. However, some expressed concern at the effect a modular test would have on the way they currently run their training schemes. Others expressed concern over the location of test centres and about candidates who would have to travel twice to a test centre.

### PROPOSAL 2: Module 1 must be completed before a Module 2 test can be taken

Ministers have decided that candidates must pass a Module 1 test before taking a Module 2 test. Candidates must prove that they have a sufficient level of skill and ability to safely control the motorcycle to progress onto the

Module 2 test.

**225 responses were received to this proposal.** 79% felt it was sensible that a candidate must demonstrate the ability to safely control the motorcycle before moving onto the road riding assessment.

### PROPOSAL 3: Allow 24 months to complete modules 1 and 2 after passing the relevant theory test

Ministers have decided that candidates must complete both modules within 24 months of passing the relevant theory test. The candidate should be required to demonstrate practical driving competence within a reasonable period of having successfully demonstrated theoretical knowledge.

**228 responses were received to this proposal.** The majority (85%) were in favour and felt that this would be a sensible approach as it has parity with the current motorcycling test.

### PROPOSAL 4: Minimum waits before retaking a test

Ministers have noted concerns about the ten day wait before a candidate can retake Module 2, but feel that reducing this requirement would send the wrong message to candidates. They have decided that candidates should wait for three days before being able to retake Module 1 and ten days before being able to retake Module 2.

**227 responses were received to this proposal.** Many respondents (62%) were not in favour; the ten day wait after failing Module 2 was thought too long. Many felt that a three day wait after failing Module 1 was sufficient and should equally apply to Module 2.

However, the ten day wait for the Module 2 test has direct parallels with the current practical motorcycling and car tests, and encourages candidates to ensure they are test-ready and to undertake further training if they are unsuccessful.

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**PROPOSAL 5: Test fee increase from £80 to £90.50 from 5 October 2009**

Ministers have decided that fees will increase in October 2009 to £15.50 for Module 1 and £75.00 for Module 2. The overall fee will need to increase to address the costs of providing the extra examiner resource required to implement a modular test.

**226 responses were received to this proposal.** The majority (76%) of respondents did not think that the motorcycling test fee should increase in October

2009. Opposition mainly focused on the previous test fee increase in September 2008, as this increase was applied even though the new test was not implemented.

Respondents also felt that a further fee increase would lead to more illegal riding as candidates would be unable or unwilling to pay the higher fee.

Some respondents felt it would help learner riders if the costs were more evenly balanced across the two modules.

Fees are set to recover the full cost of delivering the service

provided, and are generally met by candidates.

The full *Response to Consultation Report* together with copies of individual responses have been posted on the DSA website: [www.dsa.gov.uk](http://www.dsa.gov.uk) and can be accessed by following the path:

[Consultations > Consultation Responses > Response - Delivering the new practical motorcycling test](#)

## MORE MOTORCYCLE TEST DELIVERY POINTS

The search criteria for new motorcycle test centres has always been to have a centre within a travel time of 45 minutes (or 20 miles) for most customers .

When we first began looking for sites for the new test, we needed to ensure that the new test centre locations were close to suitable test routes as well as having the necessary space on which to construct the Motorcycling Manoeuvring Area (MMA).

In September 2008, 70% of our customers would have been within this travel time criteria.

Splitting the test into two

modules means we are no longer constrained by the suitability of surrounding roads to carry out the on road element of the test, and gives us much more flexibility.

This has enabled us to find several additional Module 1 sites and to use certain of our existing DTCs to help fill gaps in the level of service provision for Module 2.

The result is that on go live day (27 April) we expect to have up to 67 locations from which to deliver Module 1 tests. This however, includes six sites where we have outstanding planning applications and legal requirements, but which we

expect to have resolved by the go-live date. It means that 89% of Module 1 customers will be within our travel distance criteria.

The availability of existing DTCs for Module 2 testing will enable us to provide 104 test centre locations on go-live day, placing 96% of customers within the travel criteria. We will also carry out Module 2 testing from 30 existing occasional centres in Scotland, giving a total of 134 delivery points.

A full list of the current sites is on pages 3-4. Maps showing the coverage of each centre can be found on our website.

**“Splitting the test into two modules gives us much more flexibility and has enabled us to find several additional Module 1 sites ”**

## CAPACITY OF VOSA SITES FOR MODULE 1

The VOSA sites - which will only offer Module 1 tests - will generally be available only for tests at weekends (Sat pm and all day Sunday).

However, we will look to

maximise test throughput during these periods. We anticipate being able to conduct approximately two Module 1 tests during the equivalent time allocated for a Module 2 test.

Further details of test times will be available at the time of booking.

For any queries, please contact us by email at [motorcycle.test@dsa.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:motorcycle.test@dsa.gsi.gov.uk)

## SEARCH FOR SITES CONTINUES

The search for new test centre sites will continue after the introduction of the new test in April.

In addition to the sites available on go-live day, in the original 66 search areas, we have in the pipeline:

- 12 areas where sites have been positively identified and where we are in negotiations

with developers and landowners;

- Five areas where we have sites at the planning application stage (or at appeal), or where legal negotiations are underway;
- One area where we are looking to use a casual hire site for motorcycle testing only.

There are only three areas where, despite our best efforts, we have not been able to identify a site for a permanent MPTC. We continue to search in these areas, but are now focusing our attention on seeing if it is possible to acquire a casual hire site for motorcycle testing only.



## LIST OF TEST CENTRES FOR BOTH MODULES

The list below shows the locations where we intend to offer either Module 1, Module 2 or both tests, from Monday 27 April.

Maps showing the service coverage for both modules are available to view at [www.dsa.gov.uk/mptc](http://www.dsa.gov.uk/mptc). For any enquiries, please send an email to [motorcycle.test@dsa.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:motorcycle.test@dsa.gsi.gov.uk)

### A) List of sites offering both modules 1 and 2:

**Aberdeen:** Unit 10, Burnbank Business Centre, AB12 3LF

**Bangor:** Llandgeai Industrial Estate, LL57 4HR

**Basildon:** Paycocke Road, Basildon, SS14 3DW

**Birmingham:** Granby Avenue, Garretts Green, Birmingham, B33 0TJ

**Blackburn:** Commercial Road, Darwen, BB3 0FG

**Bristol:** Siston Centre, BS15 4GQ

**Burgess Hill:** off Charles Avenue, Victoria Industrial Estate, RH15 9UA

**Burton:** Wellington Park, DE14 2TG

**Cambridge:** 25 St Neots Road, CB23 7QH

**Carlisle:** Port Rd Business Park, CA2 7AF

**Chester:** Front Parade Ground, CH3 5UE

**Darlington:** High Point Business Park, DL1 4PW

**East Lothian:** Pollock Scotrans Site EH21 6SL

**Enfield:** Colar Way, Enfield, Middlesex, EN3 7XY

**Erith:** Crabtree Manorway North, DA17 6LJ

**Exeter:** Thoverton Road, EX2 8FS

**Farnborough:** Aerospace Boulevard, GU14 6UU

**Gateshead:** Waterside Drive, NE11 9HU

**Glasgow:** Bogmoor Road, G51 4TH

**Gloucester:** Green Farm Business Park, GL2 4LY

**Gtr Manchester:** Gibfield Business Park, Atherton, M46 0SU

**Herne Bay:** Altira Business Park, CT6 6LA

**Hull:** Reservoir Road off Clough Road, HU6 7PY

**Inverness:** 4 Longman Drive, IV1 1SU

**Ipswich:** Ransomes Europark, Ipswich, IP3 9RR

**Kettering:** Kettering Business Park, NN15 6NL

**Kings Lynn:** Hardwick Industrial Estate, PE30 4LS

**Kirkcaldy:** Randolph Place, KY1 2YX

**Leicester:** Tigers Road off Saffron Road, LE18 4WS

**Lee-on-the-Solent:** off Chalk Lane, HMS Daedelus, PO13 9YA

**Lincoln:** Sadler Road, Lincoln, LN6 3RT

**Newport:** Stephenson Street off Corporation Road, NP19 4XH

**Norwich:** Unit 16a, Broadlands Business Park, NR7 0WE

**Nottingham:** Colwick Industrial Estate, NG4 2JU

**Oxford:** Kassam Stadium, Grenoble Road, OX4 4XP (\*)

**Peterborough:** Second Drove, Fengate, PE1 5XA

**Plymouth:** Ernesettle Lane, PL5 2TY

**Rotherham:** Mangham Way off Mangham Road, S61 4QQ

**Scunthorpe:** Warren Road, DN15 6XH

**Shrewsbury:** Battlefield Enterprise Park, SY1 3BF

**St Helens:** 1 Navigation Road, WA9 1LA

**Stoke:** Britannia Stadium, Stanley Mathews Way, ST4 4EG (\*)

**Swansea:** Burrows Road, SA1 3AB

**Swindon:** Hillmead Industrial Estate, SN5 5WN

**Wick:** Unit 5E4, Wick Industrial Estate, KW1 4QS

### B) List of sites offering Module 1 only:

**Cardington:** Paul Waller Ave, MK44 3ST

**Chadderton:** Broadway Business Park, OL9 9XA (V)

**Cleckheaton:** 59 Dewsbury Road, BD19 5BT (\*)

**Croydon:** Redhouse Road, Mitcham, CR0 3AQ (V)

**Hastings:** Ivy house Lane, TN35 4NN (V)

**Kilmarnock:** Western Road, KA2 1LP (V)

**Kirkham:** Freckleton Road, R4 2RP (V)

**Leeds:** Patrick Green, Woodlesford, LS26 8HE (V)

**Leighton Buzzard:** Stanbridge Road, LU7 4QG (V)

**Livingstone:** Grange Road, EH54 5DE (V)

**Macclesfield:** Macclesfield RUFC, Priory Park, SK10 4AF (\*)

**Maidstone:** Kent Police HQ, ME15 9BZ

**Newbury:** Hambridge Lane, RG14 5TZ (V)

**Perth:** North Muirton Industrial Estate, PH1 3DZ (V)

**Poole:** 4-20 Harwell Road, Nuffield Industrial Estate, BH17 0SA (V)

**Redruth:** Wilson Way, TR15 3RP (V)

**Silverstone:** Silverstone Race Track, Northampton, NN12 8TN (\*)

**Taunton:** Taunton Trading Estate, TA2 6RX (V)

**Uxbridge:** Iver Lane, UB8 2TG (\*)

**Walton, Wetherby:** Wlghill Lane, LS23 7DU (V)

**Wolverhampton:** Cat & Kitten Lane, WV10 7JD (V)

**Yeading:** Cygnet Way, Yeading, UB4 9BS (V)

### C) List of sites offering Module 2 only (DSA Driving Test Centres)

**Aberystwyth:** Alexandra Road, SY23 1LE

**Alness:** Fyrish Way, IV17 0PJ (+)

**Aylesbury:** Walton Grove, HP21 7SL

**Ayr:** Whittletts Road, KA8 0JQ

**Ballachullish:** Mountain Rescue Centre, PH49 4HP (+)

**Ballater:** Ballawater Fire Station, AB35 5QW (+)

**Banbury:** West Bar Street, OX16 9SD

**Banff:** c/o Dept of Employment, Castle Street, AB4 1DJ (+)

**Barnstaple:** Portmarsh, EX32 9HT

**Barrow:** Ironworks Road, LA14 2PN

**Bathgate:** Glasgow Road, EH48 2AG

**Bedford:** Goldington Road, MK40 3LT

**Benbecula Island:** Balivanich Airport, HS7 5LA (+)

**Blackpool:** Warbreck Hill Road, FY02 0XE

**Bodmin:** Bell Lane, PL31 2JL

**Boston:** Spalding Road, PE21 8AL

**Bournemouth:** Gillam Road, BH10 6BW

**Bradford:** Victoria Road, BD2 2DD

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**Brodick (Isle of Arran):** Royal Mail Delivery Office, Mayish Road, KA27 8AU (+)

**Buckie:** The Fire Station, AB56 1QJ (+)

**Bury St Edmunds:** St Andrews St North, IP33 1TJ

**Cambourne:** Wilson Way, TR15 3RP

**Campbeltown:** Crown Buildings, Hall Street, PA28 6BD (+)

**Croydon:** Canterbury Road, CR0 3HH

**Dorchester:** Prince of Wales Road, DT1 1PU

**Dumfries:** Brooms Road, DG1 2SH

**Dundee:** Dryburgh Industrial Estate, DD2 3UD

**Eastbourne:** Wartling Road, BN22 7PT

**Elgin:** Trinity Road, IV30 1UE

**Folkstone:** Trinity Road, CT20 2RH

**Fort William:** Lochaber College, An Aird PH33 6AN (+)

**Galashiels:** Croft Street, TD1 3BH

**Gairloch:** Gairloch Fire Station, IV21 2B (+)

**Gillingham:** Gillingham Business Park, ME8 0NZ

**Golspie:** Golspie Fire Station, KW10 6SP (+)

**Grantham:** Cecil Street, NG31 9AQ

**Grantown-on-Spey:** Grantown-on-Spey Fire Station, PH26 3JR (+)

**Greenford:** Ruislip Road, UB6 9QH

**Grimsby:** Sargon Way, DN37 9PH

**Halifax:** Cross Street West, HX02 0HA

**Harrogate:** Alexandra Road, HG01 5JS

**Heysham:** Sugham Lane, LA03 2DR

**Horsforth:** Low Lane, LS18 5NY

**Huntly:** Huntly Fire Station, AB54 8JX (+)

**Hyde:** Perrin Street, SK14 1JE

**Inveraray (Argyll):** The Pier, PA32 8 (+)

**Island of Mull (Salen):** Post Office, Salen, PA72 6JD (+)

**Islay Island:** Post Office, Main Street, Bowmore, PQ43 7JH (+)

**Isle of Skye (Portree):** Springfield Guest House, Home Farm Road, IV51 9LX (+)

**Isle of Tiree:** The Airport, PA77 6UW (+)

**Kendal:** Sharp Road, LA09 6NQ

**Kingussie:** Kingussie Shinty Club, Ruthven Road, PH21 1EN (+)

**Kyle of Lochalsh:** Kyle of Lochalsh Fire Station, Stoney Road, IV40 8BP (+)

**Lairg:** Lairg Fire Station, Main Street, IV27 4DB (+)

**Launceston:** Weston Road, PL15 7AU

**Lerwick:** Isleburg House, King Harald Street, ZE1 0DJ (+)

**Llandrindod Wells:** Spa Road East, LD1 5HA

**Lochgilphead:** County Offices, Manse Brae, PA31 8QU (+)

**Lower Gornal:** Lake Street, DY3 2AY

**Lowestoft:** Clapham Road, NR32 1RL

**Macclesfield:** Bridge Street, SK11 6EG

**Mallaig:** Mallaig and Morar Community Centre, West Bay, PH41 4PX (+)

**Merthyr Tydfil:** Castle Street, CF47 8TX

**Newport (IOW):** Medina Avenue, Isle of Wight, PO30 1EL

**Oban:** Cameron House, Albany Street, PA34 4AE (+)

**Orkney (Kirkwall):** Pickaquooy Road, KW15 1RR (+)

**Perth:** Rannoch Road, PH1 2DF

**Peterhead:** Burnside Business Centre, AB42 3AW

**Pinner:** Tolcarne Drive, HA5 2DZ

**Poole:** 4-20 Harwell Road, Nuffield Industrial Estate, BH17 0SA

**Redditch:** Elm Road, B97 6HJ

**Salisbury:** Rougemont Close, SP1 1LY

**Scarborough:** Cayton Low Road, YO11 3BY

**Stirling:** St Ninians Road, FK8 2HF

**Stornoway (Lewis):** Fisherman's Mission, 1 Quay Street, HS1 2XX (+)

**Stranraer:** Baby Deer Ltd, Commerce Road, DG9 7DG (+)

**Taunton:** Cook Way, TA2 6BG

**Thurso:** Naver House, Naver Road, KW14 7QA (+)

**Tunbridge Wells:** Upper Grosvenor Road, TN1 2ES

**Ullapool:** Ross & Cromarty Service Point, North Road, IV26 2XL (+)

**Wakefield:** Bradford Road, WF2 0RA

**Weston Super Mare:** Sunnyside Road, North Industrial Estate, BS23 3PZ

**Wolverhampton:** Ashland Street, WV3 0BX

**Worcester:** Stainer Road, WR4 9FE

**Workington:** Stanley Street, CA14 2QG

**Yeovil:** Petters Way, BA20 1SH

**York:** Murton Way, YO19 5UN

## Key:

(\*) = subject to resolution of planning and legal negotiations

(V) = VOSA site

(+) = Occasional Centres

