



MOTORCYCLE MINIMUM TEST VEHICLE SPECIFICATION

Dear Approved Motorcycle Instructor,

The Department carried out a consultation exercise on European legislation (Directive 2012/36/EU – the amending Directive) which makes changes to existing European legislation (the 3rd Directive on driving licences - Directive 2006/126/EC – which came into effect across the EU on 19 January 2013).

The European Directive 2012/36/EU amends the 3rd Directive and introduces changes to the type of machine that can be used to take a motorcycle driving test. The majority of changes will come into effect on the 1st February 2014 with other changes due on the 31st December 2018.

The changes are designed to simplify the minimum standards that motorcycles must comply with when used for a motorcycle driving test by broadening the scope of machine that can be used and allowing the use of electric machines.

If the machine you currently use for test is acceptable at the moment, it will remain so after the 1st February 2014 but may not be acceptable on or after 31st December 2018 (see below).

The revised minimum test vehicle specification (MTV), which will come into effect on the 1st February 2014, is set out below.

Category A1

A motorcycle without a sidecar, with a power rating not exceeding 11 kilowatts, a power to weight ratio not exceeding 0.1 kilowatts per kilogram and capable of a speed of at least 90 kilometres per hour (55mph) on the level. If the motorcycle is powered by an internal combustion engine, the cylinder capacity of the engine must be at least 115cc but not more than 125cc.

If the motorcycle is powered by an electric motor, the power to weight ratio of the machine must be at least 0.08 kilowatts per kilogram.

Category A2

A motorcycle without a sidecar, with a power rating of at least 20 kilowatts but not more than 35kW and a power to weight ratio not exceeding 0.2 kilowatts per kilogram. If the motorcycle is powered by an internal combustion engine, the cylinder capacity of the engine must be at least 395cc.

If the motorcycle is powered by an electric motor, the power to weight ratio of the machine must be at least 0.15 kilowatts per kilogram.

Down-rating a machine for category A2 remains acceptable. However, as at present, a category A2 motorcycle must not be derived from a machine of more than double its power.

Category A

A motorcycle, without a sidecar, with a power rating of at least 40 kilowatts. If the motorcycle is powered by an internal combustion engine, the cylinder capacity of the engine must be at least 595cc.

If the motorcycle is powered by an electric motor, the power to weight ratio of the machine must be at least 0.25 kilowatts per kilogram.

Changes to the minimum test vehicle specification (MTV) on 31st December 2018

I would also like to inform you that the European Directive 2012/36/EU makes a further change to the minimum test vehicle specification (MTV) for category A which comes into operation on the 31st December 2018. The change is set out below.

Category A (on or after 31st December 2018)

A motorcycle without a sidecar, whose unladen mass is more than 175 kg, with a power rating of at least 50 kilowatts. If the motorcycle is powered by an internal combustion engine, the cylinder capacity of the engine shall be at least 595cc

If the motorcycle is powered by an electric motor, the power to weight ratio of the vehicle must be at least 0.25 kilowatts per kilogram.

I trust this information is of assistance. Should you require anything further please contact one of the Supervising Examiners on 02890541818 or 02890541820.



Brian Morrison
DVA Chief Driving Examiner
23 December 2013