



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR TRAFFIC, HEALTH & SAFETY
AND TECHNICAL SERVICES
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PRESS RELEASE

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WEARING OF PROTECTIVE HEAD GEAR

As from the 10th April 2012 the use of motorcycle helmets known as the half helmet “quita multa”, and novelty helmets will no longer be permitted in Gibraltar.

As part of its manifesto commitments, and in response to requests by concerned parties, the Government will introduce Regulations, which will enforce the legal requirement for riders of motorcycles and mopeds in Gibraltar to wear appropriate protective headgear for their protection. These Regulations provide that all motorcycle helmets used in Gibraltar must **NOT** be of the half helmet or novelty helmet model. Full-face, modular, off-road/motocross or open-face helmets must be of, or equivalent to the British, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Standard or comply with any standard accepted by a member of the European Economic Area which offers a level of safety and protection equivalent to the British Standard.

These Regulations will apply to both residents and visitors. Any person who fails to comply with these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence.

“The Government expects this initiative will go a long way in reducing the number of serious head and facial injuries sustained as a result of motorcycle accidents and thus improve safety to motorbike users on our roads” said Minister for Traffic, Paul Balban.

In an effort to increase awareness, prior to the date that this will come into effect, the Ministry for Traffic will be distributing an explanatory leaflet at the frontier entry points, the local media and the relevant schools. The Ministry for Traffic will be launching its campaign in conjunction with the Ministry for Health and the Royal Gibraltar Police. The Government of Gibraltar also counts with the support of the Harley Davidson Club Gibraltar and the Gibraltar Motorcycle Club locally.