

## HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR TRAFFIC, HOUSING & TECHNICAL SERVICES

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## **COMPULSORY MOTORCYCLE TRAINING**

The Ministry of Traffic, Housing and Technical Services wishes to inform the General Public that, as from 1st September 2013, persons wishing to apply for a learner's licence in respect of mopeds or motorcycles will have to undertake a Compulsory Basic Training Course. This course will ensure that every person receives basic instruction on safe use and demonstrates a minimum level of skill.

It follows that a person may undertake Module 1 "Theoretical Training" and Module 2 "On Site Practical Training" once they attain the age of 16 years and 6 months. However, Module 3, which is conducted on public roads, can only be completed once a person attains the age of 17 years old.

The training will be delivered by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Department and will include the following:-

- The essential training components to carry out the complete motorcycle CBT, including the supply of motorcycles or mopeds;
- Instruction on the aims of the CBT and theoretical knowledge;
- Instruction on practical on-site training;
- Instruction on practical on road training;

The Regulations come into operation on 1st September 2013 but as from the date of publication anyone who was born on or before 1st September 1997 may apply to undertake Modules 1 and 2 of the Compulsory Basic Test Course.

Furthermore, until 1st September 2013 any person who is eligible for a learner's licence may obtain one without having to undertake the CBT course.

The validity of Learner's Licences which today stands at 3 months will be increased to cover learners for 15 months. This is expected to reduce inconvenience to motorcycle learners who will no longer have to renew said licences as often.

The Hon Paul Balban said "This is a part of the Governments' commitment to prevent serious injuries and accidents caused by inexperienced drivers.

The Government hopes that the introduction of this course, which will be run by qualified motorcycle riding instructors who are approved by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Department, will go a long way to reduce the number of accidents on the road."

This follows from the very well received and successful motorcycle helmet campaign which saw the banning of "quita multas" (half helmets) in Gibraltar.