

PRESS RELEASE

No. 546/2015

Date: 29th July 2015

Footrests for Passengers on Motor Cycles

Following the launch of HM Government of Gibraltar's very successful motorcycle helmet campaign, the Ministry of Transport, Traffic and Technical Services is pleased to announce the start of a campaign to raise awareness on an issue known to affect the safety of motorcycle pillion riders, particularly young children.

Previously, legislation only made provision for adequate installation of footrests on a motorcycle designed to carry pillion riders; however, no reference was made to regulate that pillion riders were actually required to use them, or indeed reach the footrests.

As part of its continued commitment to road safety, HM Government of Gibraltar is therefore pleased to see the commencement of the footrest safety campaign and the updated legislation come into operation, which as from today, makes the use of a motorcycle without rear footrests illegal for the carriage of pillion riders. Moreover, every pillion passenger carried on a motorcycle must sit astride, face forward and place both feet on suitable supports or rests while the motorbike is being driven.

For the purpose of the legislative amendments, the term motorcycle will now also include a moped and any such offence contrary to the amended regulations will carry a fine at level 2 on the standard scale.

The Minister for Transport, Traffic and Technical Services, The Hon Paul Balban, said:

"I welcome the introduction of these amendments to the legislation which will no doubt go a long way in ensuring that pillion passengers, particularly young children, are carried as safely as possible on motorcycles and mopeds in future."