

## Forest Hills TCM April 2013 (Notes by Caroline Street)

### **Car Automation and Safety Features**

Many automatic devices installed on/in cars are now acceptable on test. Auto reverse for parallel parking must be disabled as must in-car satnavs that state current speed and direction (this being because it is distracting). If a satnav warns of speed restrictions, it must also be disabled. Thus, if you are getting a new car, check that it is possible to disable functionality and ensure you understand how to disable any features that are not permitted on test.

### **Motoring Services Strategy**

The DSA will be publishing the results of this consultation in June.

### **Jury's Inn roundabout (Charlotte Street)**

DSA have raised complaints to the council about the new lane markings and signage at this roundabout when approaching from Northam Bridge. They are very confusing and are under review but it is uncertain when the road signage will be corrected. In the meantime, examiners may advise candidates to use the right hand lane on approach if they are heading north towards London. As always at roundabouts candidates must be aware of dangers on either side of the vehicle. If the candidate gets into the right hand lane correctly, they may still find vehicles attempting to come up on the inside. If the candidate is incorrectly in the left lane on approach, they will find themselves in a lane marked for the "West". They have two choices - follow the lane to the West; or check their right shoulder and carry on to the London exit, if it is safe. Either are acceptable providing the manoeuvre is completed safely.

Any views on what would improve this RAB should be passed to [Tom.horrell@bblivingplaces.com](mailto:Tom.horrell@bblivingplaces.com). General consensus was that a road sign on approach to the RAB showing that the left lane is only for turning left would be useful.

### **Warning lights on vehicles presented for test**

Amber warning lights are generally considered by the DSA to be satisfactory for continuing with a test but red warning lights are not.

### ***Engine management light***

If the car's engine management warning light is lit when the candidate presents for test, a letter from the dealer stating the vehicle is safe despite the engine management light being on MAY mean the examiner is prepared to proceed with the driving test. However, there is a risk that a further fault could have arisen since the cause was investigated so the examiner may still abandon the test on the grounds of safety. It is the examiners personal choice. Union members are less likely to take out a vehicle showing an engine management warning light because the union advise not continue with a test if a warning light is visible.