

TCM Notes for Portsmouth Test Centre (8th Jan 2014)

Sheila mentioned that she had feedback from John O'Brien, our DSA guest speaker at the last CPD event that the time of day of the test centre meetings were difficult for some ADI's to attend as they are on lessons. Sheila pointed out that it was agreed that times were chosen so there would be no disruption to the driving tests, which are the priority. Evenings are not practical as ADI's are also working then and no overtime is given to Sheila to carry out these meetings. As it is Sheila is giving up her lunch hour. 10 car spaces are available with 4 in each car that would mean potentially 40 ADI's could attend. Going by today's attendance of 8 there isn't a rush for seats!

Sheila has agreed that she will try change the normal day of Wednesday to various other days if this helps.

Could it please be noted that NO SMOKING is allowed on the DSA premises or the NHS car park, this applies to ADI's and candidates. Some people are not adhering to this, please refrain from doing so.

Boarhunt Roundabout, coming from Swivleton Lane has been raised again by various examiners. On approach some candidates are approaching in the right hand lane then moving over to the left without realising it. This is dangerous and will be an automatic fail without the correct indication or observations. It is agreed that the road markings are not great at this site, it would be preferred if there were white small dotted guidance lines, but these are not a priority as there has not been an accident yet!

Please report this area on the following link because the more people write in the sooner something may be done.

The Marriott Traffic lights are another concern because the road markings are very faint, again write in to request that they are repainted.

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/roadproblems>

Feedback from examiners are 'Basic Understanding' of roundabouts are lacking. If there are two roundabouts ahead and directions are given to follow the road ahead at the first then right at the second, candidates are not moving across to the right hand lane on approach to the second in good time, resulting in late decisions and swerving across. Can we all please teach our pupils to plan a lot earlier and not leave approach lanes too late.

Put handbrake on when waiting at traffic lights, this will avoid rolling over the stop line or back, and is safer if hit from behind.

Handbrake on hills and junctions on hills rather than just clutch control.

The DL25 will be changed this year in preparation for the tablets which should be in use sometime in 2015. Details are not available yet.

There are discussions in place to reduce the National Speed Limit on motorways and dual carriageways to 60mph.

AOB

It was requested from the floor that on completion of a driving test please leave the car park ASAP so the queuing cars can get parked up on time for their tests. It has been noticed some ADI's are removing top boxes, taking photos etc. It is requested that this is carried out in a lay by further down the road.

There is only a 3 week waiting list for driving tests at the moment. Some dates have been ghosted out in preparation for any bad weather where tests need to be rescheduled, so you may see blocks of tests being opened up at short notice but within the 3 day cancellation timeframe.

It was asked if right corner reversing is ever carried out on test. Sheila clarified this is not carried out unless restricted vision eg. a van.

Meeting closed and next meeting date to be arranged.