

NEW PREMISES

Sheila Ransom - Test Centre Manager - Portsmouth spoke about the subject of new premises being found for the Portsmouth Test Centre, as the lease runs out November 2013. This will most probably happen as the land lord does not have to allow the DSA to renew their lease, one reason the land lord is not happy with the current situation ADI's/learners are still practicing bay parking in the NHS car park, even though numerous requests have been made to refrain from doing so. Ashley Fearnley was present today at the meeting, he is a surveyor and will work with and visit sites with Sheila to source a suitable replacement. The search is for a site near the Portsmouth area and not drift too close towards Fareham or towards Chichester. Sheila will announce details as and when there is any news on this subject. Ashley did say that the DSA will announce any plans just before planning permission is requested which takes 8 weeks, so plenty of notice will be given.

QUEUEING LANE AT TEST CENTRE

Sheila has requested that the queueing lane is used correctly. Can the lead car please loop round and stop at the give way line, this is so the following traffic have enough room to enter the car park and not be waiting out in the NHS car park. Also checking under bonnets which again slows the process up, can this be done before getting to the site in lay-bys etc.

EXAMINERS ON TEST

Examiners have said that when out on test the situation of ADI's moving off when a test vehicle approaches has improved and that lifting their clipboards seems to be working. However if you move forward to clear junction, etc. please keep moving and maybe go round the block as waiting by the side of the road only confuses candidates as they are not sure to proceed or not and the examiners have to intervene.

ROUNDBABOUTS

Roundabouts were again discussed, at the Rusty Cutter roundabout Bedhampton this has improved. The extra instruction of following B2177 is given to help the situation. Fareham has improved also with less candidates actually going on to the M27 motorway!

QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

A question was asked "What is the examiners biggest gripe?"
Sheila says ADI's using test routes to practice on, this can hold them up and prevent some of the test being carried out. Please try not to use them.

A discussion about eye tests disclosed that the examiners will give candidates a total of four attempts to read a car number plate, the last being measured out using a tape measure. If a candidate has a problem with reading they are able to write down what they see as this an eye test not a reading test.

All ADI's should check pupils eyesight before they start driving with them. Also if eyesight is checked and glasses are then prescribed for driving the DSA should be informed so licence can be changed, code 01.

The meeting closed, at this point in time Sheila cannot confirm when the next meeting will take place but a notice will appear in the waiting area when a date is established.