



Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency

Casework & Specialist Advice

D16

DVLA

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Mr Norman Hinks

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www.direct.gov.uk/motoring

Your Ref

Our Ref

Date:

5 June 2009

Dear Mr Hinks

Thank you for your request for information on the common law right to travel through the Freedom of Information portal. It has been passed to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) for reply and is being dealt with as part of the day to day business at the Agency.

I acknowledge that the common law right to travel still exists. However, if the travelling is to be done in/on a mechanically propelled vehicle on a public road, the vehicle must be registered and licensed.

The Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 requires vehicles to be taxed unless they are properly declared as being used or kept off-road ('a Statutory Off Road Notification'). The tax disc must be properly displayed on the vehicle and the vehicle must be properly registered with the DVLA. Also, the driver must have valid motor insurance and small vehicles over three years old must have a valid MoT certificate.

In addition, the Road Traffic Act 1988 requires all drivers to hold a driving licence, which is valid and appropriate for the class or category of vehicle in order to drive legally on UK roads. Those holding valid driving licences issued outside Great Britain may be permitted to drive here depending on the circumstances.

Further information on how to ensure that you may drive legally in on UK roads and on obtaining the necessary documents to do so can be found at www.direct.gov.uk/motoring.

Yours sincerely

[Sent unsigned via Email]

Beverly Williams

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*An executive agency of the
Department for
Transport*