

Request reference: 2907/09

1) What levels of driving permits are offered?

There are three driving grades Low Performance, Standard and Advanced

2) What do each of the driving permits allow the holder to do?

Low performance -Drive low performance vehicles

Standard - drive low performance vehicles and use emergency equipment

Advanced - drive high performance vehicles and use emergency equipment

3) What training is required for each of the driving permits and how are the candidates assessed? How long in length are the courses for each of the respective driving permits?,

Low performance -Grade based on an assessed drive to DSA standard

Standard - Three week course assessed against national competencies on a daily basis. Independent progress check at the end of week two and independent final test at week three.

Advanced - Four week course assessed against national competencies on a daily basis. Independent progress check at the end of week three and independent final test at week four.

4) Are any of the driving permits offered by your Force, offered in a modular basis, (i.e. are they offered in modules of 1 week at a time until the course is complete etc),

Not at present although this is currently being considered.

5) Which of the permits are available to Special Constables?

All

6) If any modular courses are offered, are the available to Special Constables?,

See above

7) How many Special Constables in your Force have driving permits which allow them to respond (i.e. use blue lights, sirens and allowed the holder to utilise the relevant exemptions afforded to them in law with respect of speeding, going through red lights etc),

None

West Midlands Police in complying with their statutory duty under sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to release the enclosed information will not breach the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. However, the rights of the copyright owner of the enclosed information will continue to be protected by law. Applications for the copyright owner's written permission to reproduce any part of the attached information should be addressed to The Force Solicitor, West Midlands Police Headquarters, Lloyd House, Colmore Circus Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6NQ.