



**HERTFORDSHIRE
CONSTABULARY**

Date: 22nd October 2009

Our Ref: FOI/481/09

Contact: Alice Duarte

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By email only to: request-19590-
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Dear N Smith,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding driving permits offered by the Constabulary to Police Officers

I am able to confirm that your request has been processed under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI). Please find your questions answered in the order you have raised them.

1) What levels of driving permits are offered?

Hertfordshire Constabulary follows the National Driver Training programme.

An updated police driver training manual was launched by ACPO in June 2009. The manual provides police force driving schools with a framework allowing them to develop a course based on the National Police Driving Standards. A link to the manual is provided below.

http://www.acpos.police.uk/Documents/Policies/RP_NPDSC%20Police%20Driving%20Manual%202009.pdf

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

They provide 3 levels of Police driver authority.

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?

Basic - a permit to drive from a to b (no training, just a short assessment against DSA test competence)

Response - to allow the driver to attend emergency calls utilising emergency warning equipment (two week course)

Advanced - as response but authorised to drive a high performance vehicle (three week course)

Candidates are assessed on a driving test.

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),

Courses are run concurrently not modular.

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

Special Constables are not given driver training. They can be assessed to drive at Basic level only.

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

Not applicable.

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), I would appreciate any information that is available, in particular the information that relates to Special Constables.

There is no information held regarding a Special Constable holding a permit allowing them to respond.

Yours sincerely,



Alice Duarte

Freedom of Information Assistant

Hertfordshire Constabulary provides you the right to request a re-examination of your case under its review procedure. If you decide to request such a review and having followed Hertfordshire Constabulary's full process and you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.