



Response from
The Motor Schools Association of Great Britain
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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Motor Schools Association of Great Britain (MSA) makes the following response to the proposals for the Driving Standards Agency fees and charges for 2004-05 .
- 1.2 The MSA is the national trade association for driving instructors and schools founded in 1935. Members of the association are in the main Driving Standards Agency Approved Driving Instructors (ADI). Following our merger with the Institute of Large Goods Vehicle Driving Instructors (ILGVDI), in 2000, we also represent their interests together with those of a number of bus/coach instructors and motorcycle instructors.

2 GENERAL COMMENTS

- 2.1 In order to collect as wide a range of views as possible before submitting the association's views on the consultation document to the committee, we invited all MSA members to comment through our monthly publication *MSA Newslink*. Members of the association's Board of Management have also consulted members through regional meetings and the association's network of branches and associated local ADI groups.

3 RESPONSE

- 3.1 These proposals consist of some 18 planned fee increases or new fees together with a plan to increase the Agency's borrowing limit from £30m to £70m.
- 3.2 We feel that there is little point in responding to this consultation in detail as regardless of response DSA always increases its fees.
- 3.3 However, we would like to place on record our customary objection to the ridiculously high fees charged by DSA for conducting tests, in relation to those charged (inclusive of vehicle provision) for training, particularly in relation to the services offered.
- 3.4 We are also disappointed at the extra £1.50 charge imposed on all candidates to pay for improved testing for motorcyclists. In these days of public private funding initiatives one might have thought a more imaginative solution would have been found rather than imposing extra fees on all to pay for the few.

4 PUBLICATION OF MSA COMMENTS

- 4.1 We are content for our response to be included in the summary of responses, which the agency may divulge on request.