

Basingstoke M.A.G.

Minutes

21/07/2011



Rep Keith:

E-mails:

MAG called to give evidence:

MAG has yet again been invited to present evidence to the Parliamentary Transport Select Committee.

As part of the DfT's attempt to scrutinise the work of the Agencies under its control, the Driving Standards Agency (DSA) and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) are to be the focus of attention later in the year.

MAG evidence to the Committee two years ago was instrumental to their findings that the introduction of the current bike test had been botched and that vast amounts of money had been wasted, which in turn led to the creation of the Ministerial Test Review that is ongoing.

Only 2 months ago MAG was again called to present evidence in the Committee's enquiry into traffic management and how urban congestion can be reduced and follows our very public call that the DSA should be broken up to ensure better, more accountable delivery and quality assurance of a public service.

It is a measure of MAG's maturity that our opinion is requested and demonstrates how effectively we continue to develop as a campaigning organisation. Thanks to all of you who are making this happen.

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Kind regards

Paddy Tyson
Campaigns Co-ordinator
MAG (UK) - Motorcycle Action Group

Some EU Regulation Amendments you might like:

As I reported recently, various amendments have been tabled for discussion within the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO).

There are 298 of them, but because it's almost the weekend, I thought I'd just highlight a few so that you get a feel for what may happen in the coming weeks. Some are good, some are not so good.

Please remember these are proposed amendments and nothing is concrete until negotiations are over.

Enjoy!

Amendment 97 - MEP Robert Rochfort on the banning of the 100bhp limits (yippee!!) wants to add "...driver behaviour is a major cause of accidents. In this connection, driver training focussing on defensive driving should be encouraged." In my naivety I thought he wanted to improve driver training. Alas, it turns out he means 'rider'.

Amendment 103 - MEP Robert Rochfort on penalties applicable to infringements of the provisions in the Regulation, he adds "To be effective, they should be accompanied by regular roadside checks." The police? A government agency? He is advocating 'stop and search' and infringement of movement, because of chosen mode of transport!

Amendment 106 - MEP Heide Ruhle on article 2, vehicles exempted from the regulation. Currently para 2, point g exempts "vehicles primarily intended for off-road use and designed to travel on unpaved roads." She recommends excepting L1 and L3 category vehicles from this, which is 2 wheel bikes above and below 50cc. That means dirt bikes may be included if she gets her way.

Amendment 124 - MEP Malcolm Harbour (chairman) on 'delegated acts' where the commission can decide technical specifics later, behind closed doors, Mr Harbour wants to ensure "Any measures adopted in accordance with (article 16) para 2 shall be preceded by an evaluation resulting in a report and strive for a fair balance between the following elements:
a) the existence of a serious risk to the safety of environmental performance of the technical requirements under consideration and
b) the effect on consumers and manufacturers (including aftermarket) of the imposition under this article of any additional requirements.

To any of you who wrote to Mr Harbour about this regulation- THANKYOU, it made a difference. This amendment is a good thing. Dull as dishwasher perhaps, but a good thing that he demands impact assessments are made for consumers and the aftermarket industry.

You're right, I know, it's an incredibly exciting document. There are loads of these amendments I'd like to share with you, some good some bad and you can probably barely contain yourself, but have a great weekend and I'll post a few more next week. Or a pdf of the whole thing if you want to read it first hand just ask me.

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Kind regards

Paddy Tyson
Campaigns Co-ordinator
MAG (UK) - Motorcycle Action Group

If you are feeling active and have a minute to spare...

If you are feeling active and have a moment to spare, Brighton MAG are on a political charge, and as a precursor to a meeting with their local authority at the end of the month, have set up two online petitions.

The first is about access to bus lanes in Brighton and Hove and you don't have to say where you live.

<http://www.petitionbuzz.com/petitions/brightonmag1>

The second concerns secure parking at a time when there are now more thefts of bikes each month than there are registrations!

<http://www.petitionbuzz.com/petitions/brightonmag>

I promise, it'll only take a minute of your time, but will make a huge difference at the meeting.

Thanks.
Kind regards

Paddy Tyson
Campaigns Co-ordinator
MAG (UK) - Motorcycle Action Group

Ride Magazine article:

Mike from Cornwall, just received latest copy of RIDE magazine. Good article on p23 about European legislation. Quotes Ian Mutch, Trevor Baird, Aline Delhaye, Paul Turner and Elaine Hardy. No mention is made of BMF. Tells the readers what effects of legislation will be but does not say a lot about how riders can make their views known.

You can remind everyone including non members that they can make their views known via MAG.

Article can also be seen at, ridediaries.blogspot.com

Rant:

Who wants to rant about something? For The Road Soapbox page 700 words

Red
MAG Southern Region Rep
The Motorcycle Action Group - Protecting motorcycling

TOURING IN THAILAND:

Assured it is genuine please pass round the groups :o)

Red

Hi
i would like to make you and your members aware of our tours in Thailand,
www.thaibiketours.co.uk.

I sent you an email that you could forward to your members if thats possible?

We tour from Chiang Mai in the beautiful North of Thailand use only quality late model bikes and also offer off road touring too. Anything from a 1 day ride out to a 28 day custom Grand tour taking in the whole of Thailand from North to South and East to West.

We offer fully inclusive tours (excluding flights and Alcohol!!) from £495 for 4 days, i will also offer you and your members a 10% discount on any group bookings. Thank you for your time and hope to hear from you

Safe riding

Alan
ps
if you could send me your address i will get them posted to you by return

www.thaibiketours.co.uk

07813209201 (UK mob)

From Tim of Salisbury MAG.

UK's worst motorcycle theft regions revealed

<http://www.visordown.com/motorcycle-news--general-news/uks-worst-motorcycle-theft-regions-revealed/18546.html>

Colin: Handed over a trophy to Red for her bike from the show.

Miller: This years Christmas meal with are looking at doing a medieval banquet near Portsmouth. 3rd December has been set for the date and more details to come soon. We will do a fancy dress.

2011 Events:

July:

Calne Bike Meet 23rd July. SATURDAY. www.calnebikes@freehostia.com. 9.30AM at the Royal Oak.

Basingstoke MAG Ride out to Ace Café Show at Brentwood – 31st July. Time of meet to be arranged near the date. 9.30AM at the Royal Oak.

August:

The Bull Dog Bash. 11th -14th August.

Popham Bike Show. 21st August.

Brackley Bike Festival 21st August www.bfom.co.uk

September:

Rog and Lyn Charity Run: Sunday 25th September.

October:

Basingstoke Beer Festival. 14th-15th.

November:

Southern Region AGM. Held at the New Queens Head Winchester.8pm

December:

Basingstoke MAG Christmas meal 3rd.

2012.

Basingstoke MAG 2012 AGM. 22nd March, 8pm at The Royal Oak.