



Department
for Transport

Ruth Cadbury MP
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From the Parliamentary
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Dear Ruth,

The Motor Vehicle (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No 3) Regulations 2025

I am writing to advise you of a statutory instrument (SI) which we are introducing with regard to notice periods in connection with cancelling practical car driving tests.

The motor vehicles (driving licences) (amendment) (No. 3) regulations 2025 will increase the period from three to ten working days to cancel a practical car driving test without losing the fee paid.

The reason for making the change is to encourage better prepared learner drivers for driving tests. The pass mark has been around 47% for some years and it is hoped that, by increasing the period required to cancel, this will encourage learner driver preparedness when booking their test.

In addition, there are currently long waits for car practical driving tests. It is anticipated that this measure will help to discourage late cancellations of tests, which could have been made available for other learner drivers. It is hoped that this will help reduce the backlog of demand for tests which initially arose during the Covid pandemic when tests were suspended.

The previous government consulted on this change, along with others, between 25 January and 8 March 2022. 20,960 responses were received. The Response To Consultation was published on 30 March 2023. The proposal to increase the notice period to cancel a car driving test appointment was supported by more than those opposing. It is considered that the expected benefits are sufficiently significant to introduce the change.

In addition to this substantive amendment, these Regulations also correct some non-reportable minor errors made to the 1999 Regulations by the Motor

Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No.3) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/1154). These introduced arrangements for off-road manoeuvres elements of large vehicle driving tests to be conducted by training organisations.

Best wishes,



LILIAN GREENWOOD MP
MINISTER FOR THE FUTURE OF ROADS