

**St John  
Ambulance**



**Harry Dymond**



# Transport Policy

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# Background

- Policy Commission for transport
- Extensive consultation
- Sent to Counties Dec 08
- Issued - This Week

- **Background Information:**
  - Requirements of the charities act and responsibilities of the Trustees to manage the assets of the charity.
- **Standard & Policy to be introduced for the acquisition of all vehicles**
- **Justification required to show effective utilisation of vehicles**

- **Technical Advisory Group (new).**
  - Form detailed spec for standard vehicles.
  - Guidelines for non-centrally procured vehicles.
- **Vehicle Procurement to be divided into:**
  - Standard Vehicles – centrally procured.
  - Non standard – locally procured – subject to agreement.
- **Approval:**
  - Standard – centrally as now.
  - Non standard – review by NTAG

- **Fleet Management Structure:**
  - Diving standards verifier
  - Fleet manager
- **Fleet Management Database:**
  - Records to be kept of vehicles, equipment and members
  - Database essential

# Driving Policy

- **Policies introduced:**
  - Re-classifying drivers into 7 categories.
  - Defining 'Driving Records' and recording details of every driver.
  - Driver declaration before vehicle movement (fit, no illness, no drugs consumed etc.).
  - Driving private vehicles on St John Ambulance business.

- **Training School:**
  - St John Ambulance established a driving school to train members up to and including advanced level.
  - School to be competency based.

# Response from Counties

- Vast majority very complimentary
- A few negative
- Many counties submitted detailed comments
- All read and most incorporated
- Thanks

# Commissioner Operations

- Must be clear the policy applies to all vehicles
- Commissioner Ops responsible for most but not all.
- Where does authority lie? Delegation
- Have made it much clearer now.  
(Hopefully)

# Use of Private Vehicles

- Is the vehicle used 'officially' at SJA request
- Does not apply when member goes to an event – However!
- Mileage claim good way to check.
- Be sensible and do not be draconian in interpreting this.

# Use of Private Vehicles

- A Good Question
  - Who is going to insure for carrying items such as books, files, uniform paperwork, resuscitators, etc. that some members have to take to each meeting as their only place of storage is at home?

# Insulin Dependent Diabetics

## Emergency vehicles and heavy goods

- No hypoglycaemic attacks whilst driving within the previous 12 months
- Their condition has been stable for a period of at least one month
- They regularly monitor their condition
- They arrange to be examined every 12 months by a hospital consultant,
- They have no other condition, which would render them a danger when driving C1 vehicles (even though C1 not needed)
- They sign an undertaking to comply with the directions of doctors
- A risk assessment is carried out for the period of their driving to ensure that they can eat and/or administer their insulin.

## Other SJA vehicles (e.g. cars and light vans)

- medical clearance to drive and approval from their line manager).

# Driving Age

## Emergency vehicles

- The maximum age for driving SJA Emergency Vehicles under emergency conditions shall be on reaching 65 years.
- On reaching the age of 65 they shall be re-assessed annually and shall satisfy the medical standards of fitness given in Annex A.

## Other vehicles

- The maximum age for driving shall be on reaching 70 years.
- Dispensation to drive beyond 70 years of age, shall require a driving assessment and approval by the County Driving Standards Verifier.

Subject to Insurance Co. Approval

# Emergency driving

- Still some misunderstanding between use of audible and visual warning and speed exemption.
- Notice to be put in all vehicles
- Use of blue lights to be recorded with authorisation ( doctor, paramedic, Trust control, self, etc.) – to be included with vehicle log.

# National Contracts

- To be developed once we have a National Fleet Manager in post.
- Counties may use own resource if better than national contract

# Vehicle Log Book

- Currently in development
- Will be a standard Supplies item

- Contracted transport
  - Means major contract not day to day work
- Is ambulance support work contracted
  - No unless it is long term.
- Garage approval
  - To be decided locally
- Driving licence checks
  - Can be delegated so long as there is a record

# Queries 2

- Will county supply booster seats for young members?
  - The law is the law
- Declaring Prescribed Drugs
  - No.
- Can SJA make enquiries of the DVLA?
  - Yes at a cost

# Implementation

- Each County to produce an implementation plan to NHQ for agreement
- Some immediate some will take longer
- Neighbouring counties to assist