



National Blue Light Users Conference



Howard Robinson
Driver Training Lead
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Association

The professional voice of the UK Fire & Rescue Service

CFOA ERDG FIRE SERVICE SESSION

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UPDATE ON BLUE LIGHT DRIVING

Progress on the Implementation of Section 19 of the Road Safety Act (2006) by DFT

- Panel met various bodies & organisations grouped around the purposes
- We agreed on a list of additional purposes on the basis of those meetings & wrote a report which was submitted to the DFT.
- The Minister has seen & agreed the recommendations of the report
- Not yet able to make a formal announcement of what those purposes are, as DFT want to write to all applicants first.
- Decisions have been taken and all applicants will shortly receive a letter updating them of progress.



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UPDATE ON BLUE LIGHT DRIVING

- Later this month DfT will write to the applicants explaining their proposals on the relevant vehicle purpose and setting out the way in which it may be applicable to them. This letter will stress that in order to avail themselves of the purpose they will need to have completed the relevant training. It will also make clear that the legislation needs to come into effect first and that it is for the organisation to determine whether their activity fits within the purpose as defined.



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UPDATE ON BLUE LIGHT DRIVING

- DfT in discussion with the Police on a schematic and plan as to how to manage the accreditation process for training providers.
- DfT is also working up the final stage regulatory impact assessment which is basically the assessment of the costs, (direct and indirect) benefits, risks and implications of making the changes along the lines proposed. This will need regulatory clearance from the relevant committees but once completed and cleared it will be published on the DfT's website.



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UPDATE ON BLUE LIGHT DRIVING

- Once DfT have completed the final impact assessment and the information on how the accreditation of training will work then they can instruct DfT lawyers to draft the secondary legislation to implement the measures. It is hoped that the instructions can be sent to the lawyers this autumn with a view to the secondary legislation being introduced when parliamentary time allows (but hopefully towards the end of the year).



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HOW CFOA WILL MANAGE THE PROCESS

- Briefing paper to main CFOA board now approved.
- The process will be run through CFOA Services Ltd.
- CFOA Publications Committee will approve ERDG documentation as a piece of work.
- Briefing note to be sent to every CFO outlining why the standards are changing and why CFOA will be overseeing the process and the cost.



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HOW CFOA WILL MANAGE THE PROCESS

- The cost will be collected annually by CFOA Services Ltd via a subscription that all FRS will pay.
- All documentation will be held by CFOA.
- FRS that release staff for QA inspections will be able to claim back a standard fee from CFOA.
- FRS still free to opt out of the CFOA process.



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COMING UP NEXT

- CFOA Quality Assurance Process for ERDT with Kevin Day
- DVSA Update with Ashley Bateman
- New and Emerging Vehicle Technologies with Iain Knight
- ERDT Competency Documents with Kevin Dell
- ERDT Instructor Portfolio with Trevor Neal
- Questions