

# DRIVING INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION NORTHERN IRELAND

## (DIANI)

### RTA BILL RESPONSE

1. Agree with lower alcohol limits but question higher limits for unprofessional drivers?  
**A universal lower limit makes more sense.**
2. Disagree with age reduction for learners to age 16 ½, no good reason for this. No proven road safety benefit.
3. Agree with remaining at age 17, keeps things simple and maintains parity with GB.
4. Agree with removal of 45mph speed limit for learners/new drivers.
5. Agree with **mandatory** motorway lessons with an ADI in a dual control car.
6. Agree with minimum number of hours, **professional tuition**, not with family, friends etc. Proposed log book causes us grave concerns, legitimate entries, experience, safety and qualifications of trainer etc?
7. Disagree with 12 months wait period for learners, young or old. Not sensible or beneficial and counterproductive to road safety.
8. Disagree with limitations on passenger numbers etc from a practical and policing standpoint. **Do not disagree with possible safety benefits but generally unenforceable.**
9. Question the worth and practicality of displaying a “new driver” plate for 2 years? It is difficult enough to enforce the current one year R plate.
10. Agree with mandatory legal motorcycle helmet wearing for on road quad bike riders. Question that more vulnerable trike riders are not included in this Bill.

We believe a more proactive approach is needed to road safety not the reactive legislation proposed. More laws do not stop people killing themselves or harming others. Better trained drivers and riders with tougher testing is part of the answer. But about 75% of KSIs involve “experienced” drivers/riders so these too need targeted with better education and additional training. Speed awareness courses seem to improve driver behaviour but why wait until the horse has bolted before closing the stable door?