

I am writing with a Freedom of Information Request regarding driver training and capabilities for Special Constables within your constabulary and how/if it differs to the training and capabilities afforded to "Regular" Police Constables.

Please can you provide information, either written or (if applicable) provide supporting flow diagrams/policies/documents for the following:

- 1) What level of driver training is available to Regular Police Constables? Please break this down where applicable into the specific categories (e.g A2B car, response car, advanced car, motorbike, van, etc)

Please provide information of the minimum requirements for a Regular Police Constable to undertake this training (e.g length of service, rank, role, etc and if so, what).

Please see attached the rules around driving and who the courses are aimed at. It includes all courses and the target audiences.

Please provide information of the delivery of the training to reach the required standard for each category (e.g length of training, delivered mid-week/week-end training, etc)

- 2) What level of driver training is available to Special Constables? Please break this down where applicable into the specific categories (e.g A2B car, response car, advanced car, motorbike, van, etc)

Please provide information of the minimum requirements for a Special Constable to undertake this training (e.g length of service, rank, role, etc and if so, what).

Please provide information of the delivery of the training to reach the required standard for each category (e.g length of training, delivered mid-week/week-end training, etc) and if alternate training schedules or reasonable adjustments are made based on Specials being volunteers with limited availability.

Special Constables – this will depend on team the Special is attached to. We do offer driver training to Specials but it will all depend on their role. All Specials can drive WMP vehicles under Basic Car Authorisation - please see attached.

For Special Constables only – Please state whom covers the insurance and legal aid for driving incidents such as a Police Vehicle Accident (e.g Force Insurance, Federation Insurance, Special Constabulary Insurance, etc) and what the value of this insurance fund is.

Our motor insurance makes no distinction between whether the drivers are officer, special constables or staff members. If they are authorised to drive our vehicles, then our insurance operates.

In respect of the value of the insurance fund there isn't one specific figure that can be provided.

Please also see the following link to our driver policy:

<https://foi.west-midlands.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Driver-Policy-1.pdf>