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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Welsh Government  
Consultation Document

## Motor Racing Regulations

Date of issue: 18 July 2017  
Responses by: 29 August 2017

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.  
This document is also available in Welsh.

**Overview** This consultation is about proposals to bring into force Regulations that would specify those motor sport governing bodies which are authorised to issue permits under section 12B of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (“the RTA”) for the purpose of motor racing on public highways in Wales. Section 12B(6) of the RTA requires the Welsh Ministers to list the motor sports governing bodies authorised to issue permits for the purposes of section 12B.

**How to respond** The closing date for responses is 29 August 2017.

The document is available on the internet:

[consultations.gov.wales](http://consultations.gov.wales).

Please respond by:

- Completing the consultation response form at Annex A; or
- Emailing or posting your response to the contact details below.

**Further information and related documents** **Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.**

**Contact details** Transport Planning Unit

Address:  
Department for Economy and Infrastructure  
Welsh Government  
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email:  
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telephone:  
0300 0253351

## **Data protection**

How the views and information you give us will be used

Any response you send us will be seen in full by Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues which this consultation is about. It may also be seen by other Welsh Government staff to help them plan future consultations.

The Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. This helps to show that the consultation was carried out properly. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then blank them out.

Names or addresses we blank out might still get published later, though we do not think this would happen very often. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 allow the public to ask to see information held by many public bodies, including the Welsh Government. This includes information which has not been published. However, the law also allows us to withhold information in some circumstances. If anyone asks to see information we have withheld, we will have to decide whether to release it or not. If someone has asked for their name and address not to be published, that is an important fact we would take into account. However, there might sometimes be important reasons why we would have to reveal someone's name and address, even though they have asked for them not to be published. We would get in touch with the person and ask their views before we finally decided to reveal the information.

## **Motor Racing Regulations in Wales**

This consultation is about proposals to bring into force Regulations that would specify those motor sport governing bodies which are authorised to issue permits under section 12B of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (“the RTA”) for the purpose of motor racing on public highways in Wales. Section 12B(6) of the RTA requires the Welsh Ministers to list the motor sports governing bodies authorised to issue permits for the purposes of section 12B.

Once issued with a permit, permit holders will be able to apply to the relevant highway authority for the necessary motor race order under section 12C of the RTA. This would authorise motor racing on the lengths of highway in question. The highway authority will determine whether or not to make a motor race order in accordance with section 12D of the RTA, by considering the likely impact of the event on the local community, the potential local economic and other benefits, and any other considerations that the highway authority thinks is relevant.

The consultation exercise will seek views on our preferred option to make Regulations in Wales specifying The Motor Sports Association (“MSA”) and The Auto Cycle Union (“ACU”) as bodies authorised to issue permits under section 12B of the RTA for the purpose of motor racing on public highways in Wales.

## **Background and Current Situation**

Local authorities and the Welsh Ministers already have the power to authorise a road closure for sporting events, social events or entertainment on the highway, but do not have the power to close a road for a motor race or to suspend the operation of the Road Traffic Acts, meaning that speed limits, traffic signals and the requirement for a vehicle to be roadworthy are still in force.

Legislative competence for road safety and road traffic offences is reserved to the UK Government but the Welsh Ministers exercise some executive functions, including the making of regulations listing motor sport governing bodies that are authorised to issue permits for motor racing on the highway.

In 2014 as part of the Deregulation Bill the UK Government undertook a consultation on the general principle that motor racing should be allowed on the public highway including the conferring of functions on the Welsh Ministers in relation to motor racing on roads in Wales.

The Department for Transport have completed work to commence the Deregulation Act provisions on motor racing in England and in April 2017 Regulations came into force which enable motor racing events to take place on the public highway in England subject to the making of a local authority order.

The England Regulations paved the way for road motor racing and trials of speed for the first time and named the MSA and the ACU as the bodies that will have the authority to issue permits for on road motor race events in England under section 12B of the RTA.

The powers to make the above Regulations in Wales are vested in the Welsh Ministers. The MSA and the ACU are the bodies that currently have the authority to issue permits for motorsports events in Wales. A motorsports event is defined in legislation as a competition or trial (other than a race or trial of speed).

The proposals would bring into force regulations that would specify the motor sport governing bodies which are authorised to issue permits for the purpose of motor racing on closed public highways in Wales.

### **Motorsports regulations in Wales**

- The consultation exercise seeks views on our preferred option to make regulations in Wales specifying the MSA and ACU as bodies authorised to issue permits under section 12B of the RTA for the purpose of motor racing on public highways in Wales.
- Once issued with a permit, permit holders will then be able to apply to the relevant local highway authority for approval of the necessary motor race order that would authorise motor racing on the lengths of highway in question.

## Motorsports Regulations in Wales

### Consultation Response Form

Your name:

Organisation (if applicable):

email / telephone number:

Your address:

**Question 1: Do you support the proposed changes to the Regulations?  
Yes/No**

**Please explain the reason for your answer**

**Question 2: What impact would this have on you or your organisation?**

**Question 3:** We would like to know your views on the effects that the proposed changes to the Regulations would have on the Welsh language, specifically on

- i) opportunities for people to use Welsh and
- ii) on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English.

What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

**Question 4:** Please also explain how you believe the proposed changes to the Regulations could be formulated or changed so as to have

- i) positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and
- ii) no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

**Question 5:** We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use the space below to report them:

Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: