



QUAD BIKES FOR GENERAL ROAD USE (QUADRICYCLES)

Historically, quad bikes have not been manufactured with road use in mind and they have not satisfied Construction and Use requirements. Therefore, quad bikes could previously only be registered as an agricultural vehicle (tractor) by a bona fide agriculturist etc and could only circulate according to the restrictions on use on that registration/taxation class.

Following the introduction of EU type approved quad bikes (quadricycles), Driver and Vehicle Licensing has considered whether these vehicles could be deemed suitable for general use on the public highway. These “quadricycles” do meet Construction and Use regulations and can be registered in other countries. The Committee has, therefore, agreed that they may be registered for general road use in Guernsey.

What kind of Quad Bikes may be registered for general road use?

A quad bike may be registered for road use if:

- It carries EU type approval under Directive 2002/24/EC (Certificates of Conformity should indicate that the vehicle is suitable for use in left hand drive traffic systems and has a speedometer calibrated in miles per hour), or
- It has been registered for road use in an EU country (and has registration documentation to prove it), or
- It has passed a relevant Vehicle Approval test (not available in Guernsey)

Driver and Vehicle Licensing will consider registering a quad bike that does not meet the above criteria, where the applicant can demonstrate that it complies with the Island’s Construction and Use legislation and that the vehicle is intended (by manufacture or adaptation) for road use (SVA required) (Single Vehicle Approval, is ‘type approval’ issued by VOSA in the U.K certifying the vehicle meets EU road safety standards and is suitable for road use).

In each case, the onus is on the applicant to prove to Driver and Vehicle Licensing that the vehicle is suitable and intended for road use.

Registration Category

A quad bike for general road use would be registered in the same vehicle registration category as a **car**. Registration plates would need to be displayed at both the front and rear of the vehicle. The registration mark issued to a Quad is taken from the car registration mark pool; therefore a **motorcycle registration mark cannot be attached to a Quad**.

Driving Licence

Dependent on vehicle specification, a quad bike may be driven by the holder of either a category B1 (motor-powered tricycle and quadricycle) or B (car) driving licence. (A full category B licence allows a person to drive a B1 class vehicle, but the same is not true in reverse).

Category B

Any motor vehicle, other than one falling within category A, with a maximum authorised mass not exceeding 3,500 kilogram, and having not more than 8 seats in addition to the driver's seat including such a vehicles drawing a trailer having a maximum authorised mass which does not exceed 750 kilograms OR A combination of a motor vehicle in category B and a trailer, where the maximum authorised mass of the combination does not exceed 3,500 kilograms and the maximum authorised mass of the trailer does not exceed the unladen mass of the motor vehicle.

Category B1

Any three- or four-wheeled vehicle in category B with a maximum design speed exceeding 50 kilometres per hour, or powered by an internal combustion engine with a cubic capacity exceeding 50cc or any other engine of equivalent power, the unladen mass (not including battery mass in the case of electrically propelled vehicles) of which does not exceed 550 kilograms.

Notes: a full category B and BE may drive a quad with trailer, provided the weight of the trailer does not exceed the maximum authorised mass that vehicle is allowed to tow or not greater than 750kg. Full category B1 holders are **not able** to drive a **quad with a trailer**.

Provisional licence holders are not permitted to take pillion passengers. Provisional B1 licence entitlements are issued for a maximum valid period of **two years and are not renewable**. A full 12 month period is required before a provisional B1 entitlement can be held by a 'returning' holder.

Parking

Quad bikes are not considered to be motorcycles and are not entitled to use motorcycle parking bays. Vehicles must be parked in car disc parking spaces and must comply with the disc parking regulations. If there is no secure place to display a parking clock on the vehicle, arrangements should be made to provide such a place (such as a waterproof bracket) **before** parking in a disc zone.

Helmet

Unlike a motorcycle, the rider of a quad bike would currently not be legally required to wear a safety helmet. **However, use of a suitable helmet is strongly recommended for added protection.**

Notes: Most (not all) insurers require helmets to be worn in order to validate the quads insurance cover.

Additional Advice

Driver and Vehicle Licensing strongly recommends that experience in riding a quad bike is gained before riding one on the public road. Riding a quad is different to riding a motorcycle or driving a car and a rider should become accustomed to the vehicle and the riding technique required (particularly for cornering) before venturing onto the highway, to ensure their safety and that of other road-users.

The carrying of a pillion passenger may reduce stability of the vehicle and this should be taken into consideration before agreeing to carry one.

Any quad bike that remains registered for use as an agricultural vehicle (and as such enjoys preferential rates of taxation that comes with the different fuel type used (Pink Fuel) for agricultural purposes, must comply with the restrictions on use associated with that class. Riders who breach any conditions will be open to enforcement measures.

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