



Motorcycle Observer
COVID-19 Restart
Guidelines

8th April 2021

If you are signed up to the NHS test and trace system, follow the guidelines as laid out in the Government link below if you have a contact.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

Introduction

Whilst IAM RoadSmart is keen to get back to observed sessions and doing what we do best, making safer drivers and riders, we need to be confident that when we do resume activities we are not only within the guidelines but offering the best advice for you our observers and our associates to stay safe. We must also pay due regard to the publicity we court and the perception we project to interested bystanders. The following guidance document is released in preparation for us being able to re-start observed runs. It is almost certain that for some time ahead we will be being asked to 'stay alert' so it follows that certain social distancing recommendations will remain in place. We will adjust the advice to fit the guidelines as they evolve but the overriding principle must be that personal safety is prioritised and if you regard any session as a significant risk then do not conduct it. Consider using the government COVID tracking app, which will make tracing possible contact with the virus easier to track.

The following guidelines are in preparation for being able to commence motorcycle observed runs.

Planning before the observed session

Any ride must be within the current government (and IAMRS) guidelines and must have agreement from both observer and associate:

- All observing should ideally be on a 1:1 basis, the presence of a trainee observer or a third party assessor is allowed with agreement from all parties.
- Be aware that, at present, the guidelines for leaving the house for other than essential reasons may be different in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Please check your current regional restrictions which are constantly changing
- Remember, your meeting place and stopping venues should, as far as is practicable, comply with our safeguarding guidelines
- Remain outdoors, in a public place with recommended social distancing of at least 1m plus always maintained, when venues do re-open ensure that only COVID secure locations are used and follow the guidance issued by the premises.
- Plan your route carefully, avoid busy locations, crowded car parks and areas likely to suffer from traffic congestion
- Use your local knowledge to locate essential services and public conveniences which may be open on your route
- Know the COVID 19 safe procedures to follow at filling stations or shops

- Make sure you have a full tank of fuel - try to limit the number of fuel stops you make
- Prepare a COVID 19 safety kit to take with you, such as alcohol hand gel, masks, gloves, tissues, plastic bags, etc. Use it appropriately and safely
- Use of a face covering when in direct contact may minimise cross-contamination
- Radio equipment may be used but only if an associate has compatible equipment do not share headsets or microphones.

Briefing:

This can be carried out by phone or virtual meeting before any observed ride. If conducted on the day of the ride it should ideally be done outside.

You must seek confirmation that neither party:

- has tested positive for Covid19 and should be self-isolating
- is showing symptoms of Covid19 and should be self-isolating
- is part of a household where residents are any of the above.

If either party has ANY concerns the ride should not be carried out

Agree on a suitable meeting place with your associate, avoid busy car parks and crowded locations

Agree in advance what you are going to do:

- if you have problems
- if you get separated
- if an emergency occurs
- when you need to give directions
- and remember to exchange mobile numbers.

Remind your associate to bring a copy of the Highway Code and their associate logbook so that they can be referred to without exchanging material.

To avoid unnecessary contact, email your associate a copy of the [document declaration](#) to read, sign and return to you via email before the session taking place.

Remind your associate they must ensure their motorcycle is fully legal and with enough fuel for at least the duration of your intended ride.

Any refreshments should be carried by those using them, observers and associates to provide their refreshments.

Remember to take your copy of the Highway Code, Observer handbook and any resources you can usefully use while socially distancing.

Arrival and start of the session

Remember to:

- conduct a visual inspection of the motorcycle (don't get involved in a proper vehicle examination)
- conduct an eyesight test

Give associate the initial directions when you meet but remember when you are ready to ride off thumbs up to show you are both good to go.

During session

Do not to stop or park in public car parks where you cannot be sure of maintaining adequate social distancing. Also, be aware that some regular stops may have restrictions or very limited facilities, make sure you plan for this in your session.

Remind your associate that when you stop you must make sure you stay socially distanced from others around you.

Stops during session

It is acceptable to plan a route with no midpoint stop and to return to your safe starting point to conduct your final de-brief.

End of session

The de-brief should take place at a distance of 1metre plus:

- Do not exchange any material or documents - this includes radio equipment
- Arrange the next session
- Explain your report will be provided electronically, using editable runs sheet sent via email
- Follow up with phone call or virtual meeting if necessary.

Miscellaneous

From the 12th April to 17th of May the maximum permissible group size at any gathering is 6 (or 2 households) be careful to avoid exceeding this at meeting points. From 17th May gatherings of up to 30 persons are permitted outdoors, we will still be operating with a dedicated observer and will try to avoid an arrive and ride scenario where observers swap around associates.

We have no legal standing to enquire about the vaccination status of an associate and as such should not be asking. The vaccination is intended as protection for the individual, the other control measures are for the protection of all of us.

Remember the simple rules Hands (wash or sanitise) Face (Face mask when in direct contact) Space (1m+) and Fresh air (stay outside as much as possible)