

# The Operator Licence New Responsibilities

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# Road Freight Licensing

## The Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) Act (Northern Ireland) 2010



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# Requirement for an 'O' Licence?

“A licence must be held by the operator of goods vehicles (+3.5 tonnes) used on a **public road to carry goods for hire or reward or in connection with a trade or business**”



# Requirements

- All Operators licensed
- All Operators to satisfy standards of fitness/repute financial standing/professional competence
- Continuous Licensing reviewed every 5 years
- Applications advertised
- Operating Centres included
- Operators required to give Undertakings
- New powers to the Department (to hold Inquiries, exercise discretion and tougher enforcement)



# Our Powers

- Wide ranging discretionary powers
- Differentiate between mistakes and intent
  - Mistakes – Advice
  - Intent – Sanctions - Warning
    - Curtailment
    - Suspension
    - Revocations



# What we Expect

## Everyone to play their part

- Top to Bottom
- Commitment, plans, actions

## Who is Responsible?

- Driver at the Roadside
- Licence Holder at the Public Inquiry

## Hierarchy of Action

- Driver / Vehicle at the roadside
- Inspections, Maintenance, Planned, Records, Training, Procedures
- Enforcement Reports, Convictions, Prohibitions, GV Test Failures, Breakdowns

## Cover Your Back



# Enforcement

- Existing Enforcement resources increased
- Roadside penalties
- Vehicles being used without an operators licence (when one is required) can be impounded and disposed of.



# On the Road!

- All vehicles must be roadworthy
- All drivers must comply with traffic and transport Law (undertaking made by operators)





# The End



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