

Motorcycle Industry Trainers Association (MCITA)

Electing to take training from an MCITA member will offer you the reassurance of knowing that they are either already on the Register of Post Test Motorcycle Trainers (RPMT) – or they operate to the standards set out by the DSA and comply with our Standards of Operation and Training.

Some useful questions and guidelines for choosing a Post Test Training Provider:

- ***Is the training provider offering post test training as part of the Enhanced Rider Scheme (ERS)?*** - The motorcycle industry in partnership with the DSA has created the ERS with a view to providing a standard for post test training. This scheme provides for an assessment of your skills and competences and offers a syllabus of training which will help both trainer and rider to improve and enhance ability in the areas where it is required.

The scheme also offers a Certificate of Competence which can be issued at the completion of a training course. This will confirm that the course has delivered structured training and it is a formal recognition that you have developed existing skills and where appropriate, learned new techniques which should make you a safer, more intuitive rider.

In recognition of this, the Certificate will also entitle you to genuine insurance discounts from the UK's top insurance companies.

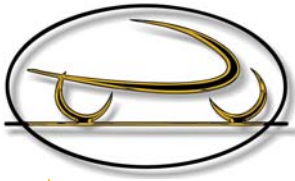
There are real benefits in checking to see if your trainer is approved under the scheme and offers training which will deliver you a Certificate under the ERS.

- ***Will the trainer conduct an assessment before determining your training package?*** - You may be attending a BikeSafe course before doing any training, but if not it is useful to know how the provider will go about assessing exactly what you need to learn. There is no point in spending good money to be told what you already know.

If you are taking training under the ERS the Bikesafe assessment will provide the basis for the trainer to structure your course. If not, then a trainer conducted assessment must certainly be included.

- ***Do they specialise in advanced training, or do they do mostly CBT and Direct Access training?*** - Some training providers will offer post test training as a bolt on to their 'bread and butter' work providing pre-test and CBT training. Whilst this doesn't necessarily mean that you will not receive good instruction, you might feel more comfortable with a post test specialist. If the training school provides training using instructors registered to deliver the ERS, then you know that they are used to offering training at all levels.
- ***What is the student to Instructor ratio?*** - Individual tuition is always good, but 2:1 will give a good group dynamic and you often learn more through sharing each others mistakes! Over 2:1 and you are unlikely to get the full attention that you need.
- ***Do they use training logbooks to monitor your progress?*** - If you have defined your objectives, it is useful to have your progress monitored and noted so that you can refer to it during or after your course has finished.

Any training conducted under the ERS will be monitored and recorded using an ERS assessment form. You will be continuously monitored throughout your training, and the form will provide a record for you as well as the trainer and the DSA with regard to the training



Finding a Post Test Trainer

elements covered.

- **How many actual road based training miles are you likely to cover vs how many classroom hours?** - You need to have a sensible balance. All the time spent on the road and you may not get the best briefing and de-briefings, which could be a disadvantage. Not enough time on the road (all theory and no practice) and you will not learn through demonstration and execution.
- **Do they have access to an area to practice manoeuvres such as braking/u-turns, if that's what you want to improve?** - It is often useful to be able to practice turning and stopping on an off road area, free from traffic and other distractions, especially if you are learning new techniques.
- **Do they use Intercoms?** - As part of the Enhanced Rider Scheme trainers are required to use intercoms. It is certainly easier to respond to instruction and to know when you have done something well – or badly – if you are using an intercom. Many training schools opt to use intercoms whether they are offering ERS courses or not.
- **What qualifications do the instructors hold?** - Although there is currently no requirement for advanced training providers to hold any qualifications, you may want to consider choosing someone with both instructing and riding qualifications. However, under the ERS your instructor will have been regularly assessed by the DSA and will have proved that they have both the riding skills and teaching ability required to deliver the course.
- **Do they have structured lesson plans, or is it less formal?** - The ERS does provide a syllabus and instructional guidelines which will ensure that your trainer can create a lesson plan and performance criteria, and so is able to check your level of skill and to provide training and guidance where it is needed.

Training schools which offer their own structured

courses may offer you the ability to monitor your progress and to ensure that you are getting value for money from your training. You will then be better placed to see how you have improved during the training.

- **How much will it cost and how much time do you get for your money?** - This is all about getting the best from your training. Check the prices across the market place. Unlike pre-test training - where there tends to be a reasonable degree of price equality – costs for post test courses can vary enormously.
- **Do you feel comfortable that the person you're speaking to understands what you need and how you want to ride?** - Personal judgement again. You will need to feel confident with your trainer to get the most out of your training. If you are struggling to get across what you want to achieve it may be a sign that you should try someone else.

The benefit of the ERS here is that you will go through a formal assessment. So, if you want some further training to be a better rider, but do not know in what areas you need to improve, then going to an ERS trainer means that you should get the training that you need – whether you can explain it or not!

- **Do you feel comfortable speaking to that person?** - If not you are unlikely to feel comfortable when taking instruction from them.