

From: **Information Access**
inform@vosa.gsi.gov.uk

Information Access Team
Berkeley House
Croydon Street
Bristol
BS5 0DA

Tel: 0300 123 9000
Fax: 0117 954 2546

Our Ref: **F0003468**

Date: 8th July 2011

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I refer to your e-mails of 7th and 8th July 2011. We have dealt with this under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked for the methods used at MOT test for testing the brake performance of your vehicle. I can confirm that all four tests were carried out using a Roller Brake Tester (RBT).

You also asked whether the fact that the vehicle has a limited slip differential fitted it would be flagged up to the tester. This fact would not be drawn to the tester's attention by the system as this information is not recorded on our database. It may also not be obvious to a Nominated Tester carrying out the MOT test that a vehicle is fitted with a limited slip differential. However the MOT Testing Inspection Manual states at Section 3.7

Vehicles not to be tested on a roller brake tester

Certain vehicles should not be tested on a roller brake tester, e.g. vehicles with

- More than one driving axle permanently engaged
- Limited-slip differential
- Belt-driven transmission
- Brakes for which the servo operates only when the vehicle is moving

These vehicles should be tested using a properly calibrated and maintained decelerometer or a plate brake tester designated as acceptable for the statutory tests. A roller brake test is also not appropriate for vehicles with damaged, under-inflated or studded tyres.

A full copy of the Testing Inspection Manual can be found by clicking on the following link:-

<http://www.transportoffice.gov.uk/crt/doitonline/bl/mottestingmanualsandguides/mottestingmanualsandguides.htm>

It would be advisable when presenting your vehicle for future tests to inform the garage that your vehicle has a limited slip differential fitted.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference **F0003468**.

If you are unhappy with the response provided, you may ask for an internal review. To request an internal review, please write to:

VOSA Corporate Office,
Berkeley House,
Croydon Street,
Bristol,
BS5 0DA

or email vosa.corporateoffice@vosa.gsi.gov.uk

giving the reasons for your dissatisfaction. It will help us if you quote the reference number for your case.

If you do not agree with the outcome of the internal review, you may lodge an appeal with the Information Commissioner (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk). The Information Commissioner is an independent official appointed by the Crown to oversee the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

The Information Commissioner can consider complaints about any aspect of the way in which requests for information have been handled. Please note: the Information Commissioner would be unlikely to consider your complaint if you have not first requested an internal review.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

VOSA Information Access