

Consular & Crisis Directorate
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH
T +44 (0)20 7008 5000

www.gov.uk/fcdo

UK driving licences

To whom it may concern,

This is to confirm that driving licences issued in Great Britain, are issued in line with the Road Traffic Act 1988. Full driving licences are issued in Great Britain on passing a driving test to the required standard as per the Motor Vehicles (Driving Licence) Regulations 1999. The Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Gibraltar issue licences to the required UK standard under their respective legislation. Driving licences are issued in Northern Ireland in accordance with the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981. Full driving licences are issued in Northern Ireland on passing a driving test to the required standard set out in the Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996.

From 8 June 2015, the paper counterpart to the photo card UK driving licence is not valid and is no longer issued by the Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency. Paper driving licences issued before the photo card was introduced in 1998 remain valid.

The details displayed on the counterpart will now be available to view online with third parties having access at www.gov.uk/check-driving-information if provided with a unique security code from the licence holder.

This information contained in this Note is general and should not be taken as a definitive statement of law nor legal advice. Any legal advice required should be obtained independently.

Consular & Crisis Directorate

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office