

DSFL Summary

Holding a valid licence is a fundamental condition that must be met before a motorist can legally drive on the road and these are issued by the DVLA.

There is currently not a set age at which anyone must stop driving, but they must renew their license with the DVLA every 3 years after they turn 70. The current DVLA policy is that an individual can decide when to stop driving unless they have certain medical conditions which must be reported to them.

There are also restrictions on driving when using various medications.

An individual will perhaps need to ask their GP for advice about these conditions and medication.

People age at different rates and it is inevitable that an individual's eyesight, hearing, concentration and reaction abilities will reduce with time, all of which can also affect the ability to drive safely.

The issue of fitness to drive is outside the scope of what the CRSP Drive Safer for Longer Scheme does which is simply to refresh skills and knowledge, provide an independent view and at the same time raise awareness of the implications of ageing on driving ability.

The CRSP recognises that there may be occasions, given their lack of control in the clients car, that the ADI feels unsafe – on such occasions the ADI should request to the client that the session is terminated immediately. For this reason the routes chosen for the session should both be familiar and local to the client.

Who decides when a person should stop driving?

Hopefully the client will make their own decision regarding when they should stop driving by referring to the ADI comments on the report form provided through the DSFL scheme supported by their GP or their friends and family.

If this voluntary approach does not work, then the GP – as a duty, family, Police etc. can report their concerns directly to the DVLA as the body that can ultimately decide whether a licence should be held, their contact details are:

Driver Medical Group
DVLA
Swansea
SA99 1TU

The police have powers under the road traffic act to revoke a licence at the road side for concerns related to the eye sight of a driver.

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