

D W Jenkins
6 xxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxx
xxxxx
xxx xxx

23rd March 2006

Mr Wilf Morgan
Local Operations Manager
SV2
Unit 3 Sandringham Park
Swansea Vale
Llansamlet
Swansea
SA7 0ES

Dear Mr Morgan,

I believe that you are the person to whom I should address my concerns regarding kit cars and MOT requirements. The reason for writing this letter is that, once more, my V11 tax disc reminder had the following words in the bottom panel:

"An appropriate MOT test certificate"

This first happened to me 6 months after the car was first registered, and again now that the car is 18 months old - obviously in both cases the car is less than 3 years old from its first registration. Twice I have had to ring the DVLA help line, and in both cases I had difficult conversations with staff who could see the problem but had little idea of how to resolve it to everyone's satisfaction. One person recommended that I fill in a V112 exemption form and take it to the Post Office, which I'm sure you know is totally inappropriate. Fortunately in both cases I did manage eventually to get my tax disc without having to do an MOT, but I wonder how many others end up paying for an unnecessary test.

In a similar vein, I had in the past had been informed by my local DVLA office that a MOT was required to first register the car, even though the car had to be put through the far more intensive SVA test. I later found out that this was not necessary, meaning that I had wasted quite a bit of time and money for no good reason.

There does seem to be a high level of misunderstanding with regard to MOT tests and newly-registered kit cars: local DVLA offices seem to make their own interpretation of the rules, leading to a great deal of annoyance, probably as much for DVLA staff as for the kit-builders themselves. I am a member of a popular internet forum (<http://www.locostbuilders.co.uk>) that has several thousand registered members. It

just takes a glance into the section relating to “SVA/Legal” to see the knots that the DVLA get builders – and themselves – into.

Would it be possible for you in your capacity as ‘Head Office’ to issue clear guidelines to each of the local DVLA offices so that there is a consistent approach? A clear and unequivocal statement on your website would also be very useful to all, as would some clear guidance to your help-desk staff.

I hope that you can resolve this problem, if only to stop kit car builders having to unnecessarily take up the time of your help-desk and local office staff!

Yours sincerely,

For information: the details of my car are as follows:

Registration number = xxxxxx

Relicensing ref number (from V11) = xxxxxxxxxxxx

Reference number of the original MOT certificate = xxxxxx