



# News Report

## from Philip Bradbourn MEP

*for Herefordshire*

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### **Local Euro MP blasts EU Directive set to damage the motorcycle industry.**

Conservative MEP, Philip Bradbourn, visited Lucas Motorcycles in Ross on Wye on Friday and vowed to continue fighting the European Commission's Third European Driving Licence Directive, legislation which is set to harm the motorcycle industry in the UK.

Mr. Bradbourn spoke to business owners about his opposition to measures that are set to add yet more red-tape to those wanting to qualify for a motorcycle driving licence. Further bureaucracy would also make it more difficult for an individual wishing to upgrade to a more powerful motorcycle.

Mr Bradbourn, who is a Leading Member of the Transport Committee in the European Parliament, has already raised the alarm on this issue, and has demanded answers from the European Commission.

#### **Mr. Bradbourn said:**

**"I have submitted a Parliamentary Question to the European Commission on this matter and expect to hear from them soon. The current system where motorcycle riders can gain access to more powerful motorcycles on a gradual basis is one which is tried and tested on Britain's roads and it works. This is illustrated by our road safety record. This Directive threatens the efficiency of the current licensing and regulatory system.**

**It also makes learning to ride a motorcycle more difficult since the Commission is currently saying that it does not recognise the opt out by the UK to allow learners to use motorcycles without supervision on smaller types of bikes. This is ludicrous nonsense and is completely contrary to our British system of allowing this method of learning whilst insisting on strict time limits for driving tests to be taken. If the European Commission does not accept our right to derogate from the new system I intend to place a resolution before Parliament to negate their one size fits all approach.'**

**ENDS**

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