



## **IMPROVING THE DRIVING COMPETENCE OF NEW DRIVERS THROUGH MONITORING USING STANDARDISED FEEDBACK ONCE THEY HAVE PASSED THEIR DRIVING TEST**

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New drivers are at an above-average risk of having a road traffic accident on account of a lack of driving experience. After passing their driving test, new drivers start with a basic level of competence in safe and responsible driving in routine road traffic. At this stage, they are usually on their own and continue to learn on their own. This also leads to unsafe, high-risk behaviours being adopted, whereby new drivers adopt the behaviours of more experienced drivers or even have positive experiences of inappropriate behaviours. It is rare in these cases that such behaviours are corrected through targeted feedback.

Through monitoring using standardised feedback, this dangerous learning process can be influenced by giving new drivers feedback on their driving behaviours and competence, particularly in the early stage of their driving career, and by helping them to establish safe, responsible driving competences for the long term.

As part of this monitoring, new drivers are accompanied by an observer on a feedback drive within the first two to three months of passing their test, during which the competence of the driver is assessed according to standardised criteria and feedback is given. During a feedback discussion, objectives for future drives (safe driving behaviours to aim for) are agreed with the new driver. During a second feedback drive around two months later, the competence of the driver is assessed again according to the standardised criteria and feedback is given again. As part of the monitoring process, both positive and negative changes are documented and given to the new driver in the form of a monitoring report. This also contains further agreed objectives for the future and advice on what further support the new driver can obtain. Monitoring instruments and research results are highlighted as part of the report to illustrate how targeted feedback helps drivers to adopt safe driving behaviours.