

## **Plastic Card Driving Licence**

At present across the EU there are more than 100 different forms of driving licence and this leads to difficulties in terms of administration and enforcement. It has been decided that all licences issued after 19 January 2013 will have a similar style and content. In Ireland a plastic card licence will issue to all those applying or renewing a licence and learner permit after that date. The licence will have enhanced security features and will be credit card size which will make carrying it easier.

Only applicants for a Learner Permit, those applying for a driving licence having passed their driving test and those who are renewing their driving licence as it reaches its expiry date, will be eligible to apply for the new plastic card from 19th January 2013.

As current driving licences have a lifespan of up to ten years, it will most likely take up to ten years for all existing paper licences to be replaced by the plastic card.

Leaflets and other information will be issued in the lead-up to this change shortly.