

The Lexus LS460 F Sport

My memory of the first time I took the wheel of a Lexus was a silky smooth drive; that quality remains as I discovered when I took the wheel of an LS460 F Sport.

The executive car with generous proportions and its mighty V8 petrol engine arrived at the right time, the week my youngest daughter tied the knot and it was ideal for this special occasion transporting the groomsmen.

However it would be so easy to simply put this Lexus model in the chauffeur category, from a driving point of view I found it a most nimble car despite its

dimensions.

No doubt it offers the highest of comfort levels but to have good road holding certainly comes as a major bonus.

The new LS adopts the latest Lexus styling cues, including a distinctive spindle shaped front grille design and all of the exterior lights adopt LED technology, including new L shaped seamless light tube daytime running lights.

The styling of the LS can be described as understated and that is no bad thing, yet it delivers class without fuss.

The interior is pure luxury with a new dashboard design which includes a huge 12.3 inch multimedia screen and to further add to the driving pleasure there is a new three spoke steering wheel with an extra adjustment range.

Right at the heart of this Lexus, the V8 engine, 4,608cc of power enough to whisk you from rest to 62mph in a mere 5.7 seconds and onto a top speed of 155mph. To reach its maximum performance a race track is a requirement.

Allied to the V8 motor a seamless changing eight speed automatic gearbox, you could never ever imagine a car like this with anything other than an automatic transmission.

Perhaps there is a price to pay for all this luxury and it comes at the pumps, I managed to average just shy of 25mpg and when I looked at the official figures given by the manufacturer they read as such; combined 31.7mpg, urban 26.4mpg and extra urban 36.2mpg.

Over some pretty challenging roads in County Tyrone the air suspension was very much appreciated by my passengers, not too soft, just perfect.

The list of standard equipment with the LS 460 is very impressive, very complete and a list which is seemingly never ending. So just a few highlights, Smart Entry and Start, cruise control, heated and air





conditioned front seats, 19 speaker Mark Levinson Reference Sound audio system, probably the best I have tested in a car and so the list goes on.

Safety and security are key elements, again a very long list of aids to keep all who travel in this car safe and protected.

Quite often when a test car comes my way it has a list of options, so complete is this offering from Lexus, it had just one option, perlescent paint.

A lot of car and at a price, £74,495. However compared with many of its competitors it does offer value for money.

Ian Lynas