LOTUS ELAN M100 (TURBO / S2)

Engine: **1588cc Isuzu 4XE1-T 16V DOHC Turbocharged**
Layout: **Transverse Front-Wheel Drive w/ Steel Backbone & Composite Body**

PRE-PURCHASE BUYER'S FIELD INSPECTION SHEET (1989–1995)

VEHICLE REGISTRATION	CHASSIS / VIN NUMBER	RECORDED MILEAGE	ASKING PRICE
.....	.....	.....	£ .....

1. CRITICAL STRUCTURAL & CHASSIS TRAPS

STEEL BACKBONE & COMPOSITE VARI SHELL

PASS	INSPECTION POINT	SPECIFIC WEAR INDICATOR & DEFECT SIGN
☐	**Galvanized Steel Backbone Chassis**	Central steel backbone with front/rear outriggers. Inspect front wishbone mounting outriggers and rear suspension crossmember; road salt causes localized flaking rust.
☐	**VARI Composite Body & Gelcoat**	Vacuum Assisted Resin Injection (VARI) fiberglass body. Check nose cone, pop-up headlamp surrounds, and door sill returns for spider-web gelcoat stress crazing.
☐	**Front "Interactive" Wishbone Rafts**	Patented Lotus front suspension raft. Inspect front compliance rubber bushes and alloy raft mounting brackets; play causes steering wander and front-end tramlining.
☐	**A-Pillars, Door Hinges & Weatherstrips**	Check A-pillar header rail and door glass weatherstrips. M100 window seals leak notoriously; water pools in passenger footwell, rotting carpets and ECU wiring.

2. MECHANICAL TRIAGE & RUNNING GEAR

COLD START TO OPERATING TEMP

PASS	SYSTEM / COMPONENT	TARGET TOLERANCES & OPERATIONAL CHECKS
☐	**Isuzu 1.6L 16V Turbo & Cam Belt** **Spec: 40–50 Cold | 20+ Hot**	Robust Isuzu 4XE1-T engine. Check toothed cam belt history. Check IHI turbocharger boost (0.6 bar stock); inspect for blue exhaust smoke on overrun and check wastegate arm.
☐	**Isuzu 5-Speed Manual Transaxle**	Short-throw 5-speed transaxle. Check 2nd gear synchro on rapid downshifts; check cable gearshift linkage bushes for excessive free play and baulking.
☐	**Pop-Up Headlamp Motor Gears**	Operate light switch. Both pods must raise and lower cleanly. Internal nylon drive gear teeth strip over time, causing motor to spin endlessly or headlamps to stick.
☐	**Front Driveshaft CV Joints & Boots**	Full-lock turns under power: clicking signals worn outer constant velocity joints. Check steering rack for center play and check inner driveshaft oil seals for leaks.

Model & Identity Verification: Stamped chassis plate in front luggage bay (Prefix: SCC...). Series 1 (1989–92, 15" wheels); Series 2 (1994–95, limited run of 800 built by Bugatti-owned Lotus, catalytic converter, 16" BBS wheels). Verify V5C logbook.

3. DEFECT LEDGER & NEGOTIATION DEDUCTIONS

UK MARKET BENCHMARKS

OBSERVED DEFECT / REQUIRED WORK	ESTIMATED UK REMEDY	DEDUCTION APPLIED
IHI Turbocharger Overhaul & Wastegate Replacement	£650 – £1,100 (Turbo rebuild, oil lines & setup)	£
Front Suspension Raft Bush & Wishbone Overhaul	£550 – £850 (Polybushes, ball joints & geometry set)	£
Full Weatherstrip Door & Hood Seal Replacement	£450 – £750 (Factory seal kit & window adjustment)	£
Stripped Pop-Up Headlamp Motor Drive Gears (Pair)	£200 – £350 (Brass replacement gear kits & labor)	£
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM ASKING PRICE	MAX REVISED OFFER:	£