



2.22 Road Safety Awareness Policy

Fatigue

- Remember the risks if you have to get up unusually early to start a long drive. Try to avoid a long trip between midnight and six am when you are likely to feel sleepy.
- If you start to feel sleepy, find a safe place to stop (not the hard shoulder of a motorway). Drink two cups of coffee or a high-caffeine drink and have a rest for 10 to 15 minutes to allow time for the caffeine to kick in.
- Plan your journey to include a 15-minute break every 2 to 3 hours.

Mobile phones

- put your phone away before starting a journey, this way you will not be tempted to use it.
- Don't contact someone's mobile if you know they are driving or riding.
- make a pledge to not use your phone whilst driving or riding via RAC's **be phone smart**.

Drink driving

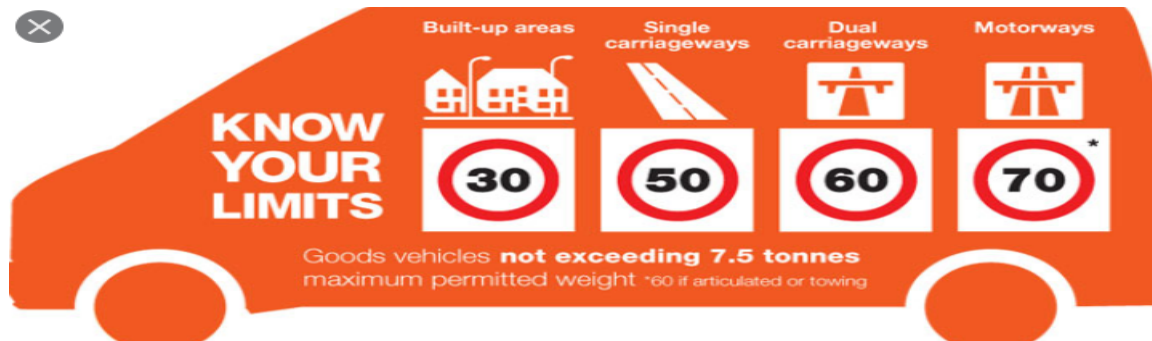
- If you are planning to drink alcohol, plan how to get home without driving. Agree a designated driver, save a taxi number in your phone, or find out about public transport routes and times.
- Remember being only down the road is not an excuse to drive or ride under the influence of alcohol. A large proportion of all drink driving crashes occur within three miles of the start of the journey.

Drug driving

- driving under the influence of drugs is extremely dangerous and negatively affects your abilities. Your perception of time and distance is distorted, resulting in poor concentration and control of the vehicle.
- A sense of overconfidence can develop which can result in high risk behavior, including speeding and aggressive manoeuvres.
- Once the effects of a drug has worn off the user still may feel fatigue, affecting concentration levels and driving or riding abilities.

Speed Speed limits are there for a reason.

- The speed limit is a limit not a target.
- In some road conditions including fog, rain and traffic flow, driving or riding at the speed limit could be too fast.
- The national Speed limit on single carriage roads is 60 mph.



Country roads

- Read the road ahead, anticipate potential hazards and brake before the bend not into it.
- Look out for hidden dips, upcoming bends blind summits and concealed entrances. Always drive at a speed which will allow you to stop in a distance you can see to be clear.

The law

- You must not drive faster than the speed limit for the type of road and your type of vehicle.
- The speed limit is the absolute maximum and it doesn't mean it's safe to drive at this speed in all conditions.

Mobile Phones

The facts

- Drivers using a hands-free or handheld mobile phone are slower at recognising and reacting to hazards.
- Research shows:

.At 30 mph a car travels 100 feet in 2.3 seconds.

The law

- It's illegal to use a handheld mobile when driving – including using your phone to follow a map, read a text or check social media.
- It is also illegal to use a handheld phone or similar device when supervising a learner driver.
- These both apply even if you're stopped at traffic lights or queuing in traffic.
- You can only use a handheld phone if you are safely parked or need to call 999 or 112 in an emergency and it's unsafe or impractical to stop.

- If you're caught using a handheld phone while driving, you'll get 6 penalty points on your license and a fine of £200.
- If you get just 6 points in the first 2 years after passing your test, you will lose your license.
- Using a hands-free device (for example, for navigation) is not illegal. However, if this distracts you and affects your ability to drive safely, you can still be prosecuted by the police.
- Always wear a seat belt and wear it correctly so it can offer you the best protection in a crash. You are twice as likely to die in a car crash if you do not. Even on short journeys, familiar journeys and at low speeds, not wearing a seat belt can be fatal.
- Put your phone away before driving so you will not be tempted to use it – make the glove compartment the phone compartment. Pull over if you need to adjust a hands-free device or check your map.
- Driving too close to the car in front, undertaking and failing to signal are widely accepted as examples of bad driving. However, driving too fast is also poor driving. It is a contributory factor in hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries every year. Consider the emotional consequences of injuries and deaths caused to others due to driving at excessive speeds and crashing. If you cause a crash you will have to live with these consequences.

Look out for vulnerable road users:

- Look out for cyclists, motorcyclists and horse riders. make eye contact where possible to show you have seen them. use your indicators to signal intentions and look out for their signals.
- Give cyclists, motorcyclists and horse riders plenty of space when overtaking them. Don't accelerate rapidly, sound your horn or rev your engine when passing horses and watch out for sudden movements by the horse.
- Always check for cyclists and motorcyclists when opening your car door, pulling out at a junction, or when doing a manoeuvre.
- Advanced stop lines at lights allow vulnerable road users to get to the front and increase their visibility. You must stop at the first white line reached if the lights amber or red. When the green signal shows allow the other road user time and space to move off.

REDSW [01684 296677](tel:01684 296677)

Vehicle Safety, Security & Equipment Policy

1. General Principle

REDSW are committed to ensuring that the drivers operating in Hired/leased vehicles on behalf of the company and those vehicles owned and operated by contractors are as safe as possible.

This policy is to ensure that vehicle safety equipment requirements are documented and managed in a consistent way in order to improve our WRRR (work related road risk) safety record. Ensuring the

most appropriate safety equipment is fitted to all vehicles is the joint responsibility of senior management, operations, drivers, and owners of vehicles used to render services to REDSW

The driver of each vehicle plays a key role in providing feedback to ensure the most appropriate equipment is fitted and that any defects are reported as soon as they occur.

2. Who is covered by this policy

This policy applies to all staff, contractors, agents or persons rendering/providing services to REDSW responsible for any aspect of the procurement, fitment, maintenance and use of a vehicle and its safety equipment.

3. Our Responsibilities

REDSW will endeavour to ensure that any person whom utilises a road vehicle in any context in the rendering of services to REDSW shall:

- Hold and continue to hold a valid driving license covering as a minimum the class of vehicle being used, where applicable this shall be verified via periodical checks (of no more than 6 months) of the drivers license status using the online check service provided by the DVLA in the UK.
- Has no greater amount that 6 (six) penalty points displayed on their driving license.
- Is trained in the use of any safety or additional equipment fitted to the vehicle prior to first using the vehicle.
- Understands the process for checking the vehicle safety equipment.
- Understands the process of the daily vehicle walk round check
- Understands the process for reporting any defects to the vehicle or its equipment.

We shall also ensure that any vehicle owned/Insured by REDSW and issued to any party for the purposes or the providing of a service to REDSW and it customers in any context shall if not fitted to the vehicle as standard equipment by the manufacturer contain as a minimum the following safety equipment:

- 5KG fire extinguisher (**advisory to have not legal requirement**)
- First Aid Kit (**advisory to have not legal requirement**)
- Safety/Warning Triangle (**advisory to have not legal requirement**)
- High Visibility Jacket (**required under customer contract and H&S requirement**)
- Emergency Torch/Light (**Advisory to have, especially in winter months**)

5. Vehicle Security

The security of any vehicle used to render a service to REDSW and the vehicles contents are paramount and you therefore understand that there is a requirement to at all times ensure the vehicle is locked when unattended and that a security key chain or similar key retaining device must be used at all times whilst servicers are rendered. You also understand and agree that although vehicle security is paramount this should not come before the safety and security of any driver, user, or passenger of the vehicle nor any member of the public.

Accidents

If you are involved in a road-traffic accident as a driver you must stop if anyone is injured, if there's damage to another vehicle or property or if an animal is injured. You should remain at the scene for a reasonable period and give your vehicle registration number, insurance details and your name and address, and that of the vehicle owner (if different) to anyone with reasonable grounds to ask for those details.

Breakdowns

Breakdowns are stressful enough at home but can be even more so if you're in a foreign country and don't know the language or who to contact. Talk to your national breakdown service provider to ensure that your policy is extended to include cover abroad.

If your car breaks down, get your vehicle off the road if possible. Make sure you warn other traffic by using your hazard warning lights, particularly if your vehicle is causing an obstruction

If your car breaks down on a motorway, do the following:

Pull onto the hard shoulder and stop as far to the left as possible

Leave your sidelights on and turn on the hazard warning lights

Get out of the vehicle by the left-hand door and make sure that all your passengers do the same

Wait behind a barrier well away from the carriageway and hard shoulder

On motorways without a hard shoulder, use an emergency refuge area, motorway service area, or leave at the next exit

If you have to stop in a live lane, put your hazard lights on, and dial 999 or 112. Do not attempt to leave your vehicle unless you are in the left-hand lane and it is safe to do so.

In the event of an emergency or Road traffic collision call the emergency services to contact the services in case of an emergency, you call 999 or 112. These calls can be made from any phone and are free of charge.

What are the emergency services?

- Police. The police deal with the safety of the community and act to reduce crime towards people and property. ...
- Fire Service. The fire service deal with fire and rescue operations. ...
- Emergency medical service. The emergency medical service provides ambulances and staff to deal with medical emergencies. ...
- Mountain rescue.