

## SEAT BELT LEGISLATION THE FACTS...

### Driver:

**Front Seat** - Seat belt **MUST** be worn if available.

**Who is responsible?** - DRIVER.

Children aged 3 and above, until they reach EITHER their 12th birthday or 135cm in height:

**REAR SEAT** - Where seat belts fitted, correct child restraint **MUST** be used.

**MUST** use adult belt if the correct child restraint is not available in three scenarios:

- in a licensed taxi or Private hire vehicle;
- for a short distance for reason of unexpected necessity;
- two occupied child restraints prevent fitment of a third.

**Who is responsible?** - DRIVER.

Children over 135 cm, or 12 to 13 years:

**FRONT SEAT** - Seat belt **MUST** be worn if available.

**REAR SEAT** - Seat belt **MUST** be worn if available.

**Who is responsible?** - DRIVER.

Adult passengers  
(14 years and over):

**FRONT SEAT** - Seat belt **MUST** be worn if available.

**REAR SEAT** - Seat belt **MUST** be worn if available.

**Who is responsible?** - PASSENGER.

## ENFORCEMENT, THE FACTS...

Yes, the police are the primary enforcement body for ensuring the laws of the road are adhered to. This is not about victimisation, or looking for soft targets, this is about saving lives. **In 2007 4 people were murdered in North Yorkshire and 81 people died on the roads, in 2012 the number of people that lost their lives on the roads dropped to 31.**

### DOES ENFORCEMENT WORK?

Well if you intelligently combine enforcement activities with the education aspect and road engineering measures we believe it does.

### SAFETY CAMERAS

From 12 April 2013, three new mobile safety cameras took to the roads of York and North Yorkshire on a permanent basis.

This followed a very successful pilot scheme using one mobile safety camera which was introduced on 29 June 2011. The pilot scheme saw over 26,000 motorists caught speeding, including a motorcyclist caught travelling at 144mph and a biker who rode past a horse and rider at 104mph. A number of motorists were also summonsed to court on charges of dangerous driving as a result of incidents captured by the camera. Results and key cases from the pilot, along with video footage is available on our web page Mobile safety camera pilot - Results.

### WHY HAVE MOBILE SAFETY CAMERAS?

Despite the continuous enforcement, education and engagement operations carried out by North Yorkshire Police and the "95 Alive" York and North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership, casualty data revealed that excessive or inappropriate speed was responsible for 24% of all road deaths in North Yorkshire over the three years to 2010.

The county is also very popular with bikers who travel from all over the region to take advantage of the picturesque and challenging routes.

20 motorcyclists lost their lives on the county's roads, in 2010  
11 motorcyclists died in 2011  
5 motorcyclists died in 2012

With the unacceptable death toll in mind, and following a detailed feasibility study into the benefits and practical considerations of safety cameras, North Yorkshire Police made the decision to introduce a mobile safety camera pilot on 29 June 2011.

The force recorded a 50% reduction in speed related fatal collisions during 2011, from 14 in 2010 to 7 in 2011.

During the first 12 months of the mobile safety camera pilot, fatal and serious injury collisions were reduced by 46% at identified sites. Fatal and serious injury collisions where speed is a contributory factor have reduced by 59%.

### SPEED AWARENESS COURSES

A speed awareness course is offered to first time offenders who meet certain criteria. This is an educational alternative to receiving a speeding conviction and penalty points on your driving licence.

### WHERE WILL THE VANS BE DEPLOYED?

The vans will be deployed to routes identified through intelligence and collision data as well as those highlighted by local communities who are blighted by speeding motorists. These routes will be regularly reviewed and updated with the latest information relating to collisions and speeding.

### WHY ME?

'95 Alive', the York and North Yorkshire road safety partnership was formed in 2005 by organisations that have a vested interest in saving lives and reducing the number of casualties from road traffic collisions. Key partners include North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire County Council, Highways Agency, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, District councils and safer community partnerships. The Partnership was tasked with saving an additional 95 lives over and above those expected to be saved by government targets, by the end of 2010. This target was surpassed, with 126 extra lives being saved. The Partnership continues to be committed to reducing casualties.

In 2012, 31 people died on the roads of York and North Yorkshire. A further 442 sustained serious injuries as a direct result of road traffic collisions.

The cost to the economy for every road death is in the region of £1.8 million / The cost to the economy for every serious injury is approximately £200,000 / The emotional cost to the families, friends and colleagues of those who have died can never be measured. / Road deaths and injuries are unacceptable, unnecessary and preventable.

## EDUCATION...

Public Awareness – simply asking you to think a little differently. This leaflet is one way we hope to be able to achieve this. Can you honestly say with your hand on your heart that you know the law? The partners who share this responsibility are actively using the press, media and advertising to help us reach the same objective. By keeping you informed we hope you can share the responsibility.

## TO REDUCE CASUALTIES ON THE ROADS OF YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE

Share the road...



...and take responsibility

email: 95alive@northyorks.gov.uk



# “THE FACTS OF LIFE”



# SHARE THE ROAD AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY



# SHARE THE ROAD...

## ALCOHOL

- > Nearly 1 in 6 of all deaths on the road involves drivers who are over the legal alcohol driving limit. Not all of them were behind the wheel of a vehicle- simply innocent victims. Alive one day,- dead the next- a sobering thought.
- > There is NO WAY to know how much you can drink and stay under the legal limit.
- > People who drive at twice the current legal alcohol limit are at least 50 times more likely to be involved in a fatal road crash.
- > North Yorkshire Police will continue to breath test all drivers involved in collisions, committing traffic offences or who are believed to be driving with excess alcohol in their blood.
- > In York & North Yorkshire, between 12,000 and 15,000 breath tests are carried out annually - **IF YOU DRINK AND DRIVE YOU ARE GOING TO GET CAUGHT!**
- > You can still be over the drink drive limit **WELL INTO** the next day. If you are caught, the penalties are the same, so think twice about driving the next morning if you have had a few the previous night!
- > The drink and drugs crackdown over the Christmas period last year saw North Yorkshire Police carry out 3,455 breath tests and arrest 114 motorists on suspicion of drink-driving with 13 drivers arrested on suspicion of driving while impaired through drugs.

### DRIVING WHILST OVER THE LIMIT

UP TO SIX MONTHS IN PRISON, A FINE UP TO £5000 AND A MINIMUM 1 YEAR BAN

**CAUSING DEATH BY DANGEROUS DRIVING WHILST OVER THE LIMIT - MAXIMUM 14 YEARS IN PRISON**

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## SPEED

- > Excess and inappropriate speed is a major contributory factor in one third of collisions on UK roads.
- > You put yourself and other road users at risk - speed limits are there to give you time to react to potential hazards and also reduce the severity of injury if a collision occurs.
- > North Yorkshire Police vigorously enforce the speed limits in the county and have a fleet of safety camera vans, with cameras to the front and rear to prosecute motorists who abuse this law.
- > Between April and September 2013 North Yorkshire Police have carried out 1,845 hours of enforcement patrols and issued 23,595 tickets. Of the tickets issued, more than 19,600 drivers opted to take a Speed Awareness Course, over 2,600 were given fixed penalties and almost 440 more being reported for summons to court.
- > Points on your License - substantial fines- increased insurance premiums-higher fuel consumption! Is it worth it, just to get there a few minutes earlier?

**FIXED PENALTY £100 AND 3 PENALTY POINTS**

HIGHER END SPEEDING UP TO £2,000 FINE 6 POINTS AND A DISCRETIONARY BAN

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## DRUGS

- > Drugs can affect your mind and body in many different ways that will influence your ability to drive safely.
- > The effects of drugs can last for several hours, if not days, as can the residue of some drugs in your blood.
- > The penalties for drug driving are the same as for drinking and driving.

### IF YOU KNOW OF A DRUG DRIVER!

DO THE RIGHT THING - REPORT THEM TO THE POLICE  
YOU MAY SAVE SOMEONES LIFE

## MOBILE PHONES

- > Using a mobile phone whilst driving is dangerous. A telephone conversation or texting distracts from the mental concentration needed to drive safely. Can you honestly say you can drive and react properly whilst having one hand on the wheel and holding a conversation?
- > Using a mobile phone (hand-held or hands free) slows reaction times by up to 50%.
- > Quite simply this is a growing problem. Using a hand held mobile phone whilst driving is illegal.
- > The safest way to not get caught out is to turn your mobile phone off at the start of the journey.

**3 PENALTY POINTS AND UP TO**

**£1000 FINE** IF FOUND GUILTY OF CARELESS DRIVING THAT CAN INCREASE TO A £2,500 FINE, POINTS AND EVEN DISQUALIFICATION

## SEAT BELTS

- > Wearing a seat belt in the front seat of a car has been a legal requirement since 1983.
- > This saves at least 200 lives and prevents about 7000 serious injuries every year nationally.
- > Wearing a rear seatbelt has been a legal requirement since 1991 and the risks of failing to wear one are not widely recognised by the public.
- > In a collision at 30mph, an adult rear seat passenger is thrown forwards with a force of 3.5 tonnes, equivalent to the weight of an elephant.
- > Don't forget the children,- the law can be complex- the solution is simple.

**£100 FIXED PENALTY**

(IT COSTS NOTHING TO WEAR ONE)

**£50 FINE**

## EYESIGHT

- > Failing to look (or more importantly failing to see) is the main factor cited as the cause of road collisions in York and North Yorkshire.
- > Research suggests that 3.5 million people could be driving with eyesight below the minimum legal requirement and this is across the whole driving population.
- > Research also suggests that 22% of British drivers who need spectacles or contact lenses to drive have knowingly driven without corrective eyewear.
- > It is a criminal offence to drive with uncorrected vision, a driver needs to be able to read a standard number plate at 20.5 metres in good daylight.

## FATIGUE & CONCENTRATION

- > Driver fatigue is a serious problem resulting in many road collisions each year.
- > Research suggests that up to 20% of collisions on motorways/dual carriageways are fatigue related.
- > Sleepiness reduces reaction time which is a critical element of safe driving. It also reduces vigilance, alertness, concentration and the ability to make decisions which are also vital to safe driving.
- > A minor distraction leading to a momentary lapse in concentration can lead to a collision and you can be prosecuted for careless driving or riding as a result.
- > Distractions include: Smoking, eating, drinking, changing the radio channel or CD or Media Player, checking the map or programming the Sat Nav or just looking at the scenery.
- > Driving is a complex process. Use all your available skills to drive safely.

**CARELESS DRIVING**

**UP TO A £2,500 FINE,**  
POINTS AND EVEN A DISQUALIFICATION

## CARELESS DRIVING

- > Since June 2013 police have had powers to issue fixed penalty notices for careless driving, - such as tailgating or middle lane hogging. This is not only a dangerous practice, but also a major frustration for other road users.

**£100 FIXED PENALTY AND 3 PENALTY POINTS**

# ...AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY