



# Changes to **The Highway Code**

The changes follow a public consultation on a review of The Highway Code, which received more than 20,000 responses from the public.



# New Hierarchy of road users

The hierarchy places those road users most at risk in the event of a collision at the top of the hierarchy.

More likely to be injured



People walking  
(including children, older adults and disabled people)



People riding horses  
People cycling  
People driving horse-drawn vehicles and motorcycles



People driving cars and taxis  
People driving vans and minibuses  
People driving large goods and passenger vehicles



Greater responsibility





# Updated Priority at junctions

When people are crossing or waiting to cross at a junction, other traffic should give way.

Old rule



New rule





# Updated Safe passing distances

We're updating guidance on safe passing distances and speeds for people driving when overtaking more vulnerable road users.

When overtaking people walking in the road:

Allow at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) and keep to a low speed



When overtaking people cycling:

Leave at least 1.5 metres (5 feet) at speeds of up to 30 mph



When passing people riding horses or driving horse-drawn vehicles:

Allow at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) at speeds of less than 10 mph







# New Safely opening doors

People driving and passengers should open the door using their hand farthest to the door they are opening.

This will make them turn their head to look over their shoulder. They're then less likely to cause injury to other road users or people on the pavement.

