

SAFETY ALERT

UK SA15/2021 – 16.11.21

Display Until
31.12.21



CYCLISTS & VULNERABLE ROAD USERS: BEWARE

DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT

A contract mixer truck was involved in a low speed collision with a cyclist, who was pulled underneath the truck as it turned left across a designated cycle lane.

The potentially life-threatening incident occurred recently and remains the subject of an ongoing police investigation, which could result in the driver facing serious criminal charges. Whilst no conclusions can yet be drawn from that, it serves as a timely reminder of the need for all drivers to stay alert to other road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians.



In September 2021 the Department for Transport revised the Highway Code; in particular with regards to the rules for the 'Hierarchy of Road Users'. This will ensure that road users who can cause the most harm in a collision, such as those in vehicles, bear the "greatest responsibility to reduce the danger they may pose to others".

For example - a lorry driver will have a greater responsibility to those driving a car or motorcycle, and likewise people cycling would have a greater responsibility than pedestrians.

ARE DRIVERS AWARE OF THE CHANGES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES?

KEY REVIEW POINTS

- As a driver, do you remain alert to other, more vulnerable road users at all times?
- Are you aware of the possibility that cyclists might undertake our trucks in slow moving traffic?
- Do you take notice that cycle lanes will often continue across the mouth of a junction which you may need to turn into?
- Cyclists may not always use a designated cycle lane – and they are not legally obliged to.
- Are you always mindful that vulnerable road users might be in your vehicle's blind spots?
- Do you make full use of visibility aids and safety features fitted to vehicles to look out for other road users and respond to alerts from these vehicle safety features?
- Are drivers aware of how early to indicate and when they should indicate?

A driver should always indicate when:-

- a) overtaking another moving vehicle;
- b) changing lanes;
- c) before changing direction;
- d) when pulling over or moving off; and
- e) on the approach to a junction, unless it is clearly marked as going in one direction only.

Think Ahead; Think for Everyone!



Other Road Users

Stay alert to other road users, particularly motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians.



Journey Planning

Assess the risks and plan your journey to use the safest route.



Remember

– Your family depends on you.
So drive to arrive safely at all times!



STOP THINK ACT