

Police launch two-week Summer Drink Drive Campaign



Police Scotland's two-week Summer Drink Drive Campaign begins today.

Police are warning drivers to leave their car at home when enjoying a drink during the summer months. Over the next two weeks, we will be conducting intelligence-led high visibility patrols and roadside checks to detect those driving under the influence of drink or drugs. Officers will also be looking out for early morning motorists that may still be under the influence from the night before.

Last year 5,791 drivers were detected being over the limit. It was only slightly less than the previous year (5,887) but a high proportion of drivers are still putting themselves and others at risk of being killed or seriously injured. Police Scotland is committed to achieving the Scottish Government's 2020 casualty reduction targets by tackling the risks

associated with drink/drug driving.

Assistant Chief Constable Mark Williams said: "For many of us, the holiday season is just about to start so if you're heading out to socialise and will be drinking alcohol please consider 'how am I going to get home?' Whether it's walking, catching the bus or train or arranging to share a taxi, please keep your car keys in your pocket. Help us to keep our roads safe for everyone this summer."

Humza Yousaf, Justice Secretary said: "Most drivers understand the real damage that can be caused to themselves and others by drink driving. However, it is shocking that there remains a persistent minority who continue to disregard the law and the welfare of other road users.

"This is a timely campaign by Police Scotland as summer begins and we continue to enjoy the longer evenings, better weather, and a host of exciting sporting events including football, golf and tennis. The message from me and all road safety partners is clear – when it comes to drinking and driving, the best advice is none.

"It is a minimum 12 month driving ban if you are caught, a criminal record, a substantial fine and the possibility of a prison sentence. Drink driving wrecks lives, so it is simply not worth it for the sake of one drink. Please plan ahead, think about how you are getting home and continue to respect the law, other road users and yourself."