

Police to launch Drink & Drug Drive campaign next week



Police Scotland. Photo Martin McAdam

Police Scotland launches its annual, two-week Summer Drink & Drug Drive Campaign on Monday (June 24, 2019) to coincide with the start of school holidays in many parts of the country.

Over the next fortnight, officers will be conducting intelligence-led, high visibility patrols and roadside checks to detect those driving under the influence of drink or drugs. A particular focus will be looking out for early morning motorists driving while still under the influence from the night before.

Head of Road Policing, Chief Superintendent Stewart Carle, 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, or better still, leave the car at home.

"I urge all drivers to abstain from alcohol if you are getting

behind the wheel and remember that you may still be over the limit the following morning, so it is very important to limit the amount of alcohol you consume and leave plenty of time after your last drink before driving the next day. Everyone's metabolism is unique to them, and their bodies react to alcohol differently, so it is essential that all drivers take seriously, their personal responsibility to ensure they are fit to drive.

"During last summer's awareness campaign, 195 drivers were caught over the drink limit or intoxicated with drugs. Worryingly, many 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 the 'Fatal Four' factors including drink/drug driving and we need the help of every driver (and their family and friends: #MatesMatter) to keep our roads safe this summer."

"Most drivers understand the lasting damage that can be caused to themselves and others by drink/drug driving. But it is shocking that there remains a persistent minority who selfishly disregard the law and gravely and recklessly risk the safety of other road users.

"For those who ignore the law, there is a minimum 12 month driving ban when you are caught, a criminal record, a substantial fine and the possibility of a prison sentence and the confiscation of your motor vehicle. Drink and drug driving wrecks lives – #DontRiskIt.

"Please plan ahead, think about how you are getting home and continue to respect the law, other road users and yourself."