



OTHER ROAD USERS

Did you know?

- In 2022, there were 75 fatalities involving vans and vulnerable road users.
- 70% of cyclists killed or seriously injured were involved in collisions at, or near, a road junction.
- Post collision, drivers could face financial claims from a vulnerable road user covering their loss of wages, medical expenses and any recovery treatment.

Safe passing distances and speeds for people driving or riding a motorcycle when overtaking vulnerable road users;

- leaving at least 1.5 metres (5 feet) when overtaking people cycling at speeds of up to 30mph, and more space when overtaking at higher speeds
- passing people riding horses or driving horse-drawn vehicles at speeds under 10 mph and allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) of space
- allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) of space and keeping to a low speed when passing people walking in the road (where there's no pavement)



Drivers should check blind spots frequently and whenever turning left or going round roundabouts to watch for other road users.

At a junction, drivers should give way to pedestrians crossing or waiting to cross a road into which or from which the driver is turning, and never cut across cyclists, horse riders or horse drawn vehicles going ahead when they are turning into or out of a junction.

Drivers should ensure their mirrors are accurately set to maximise their visibility.

Best practice tips:

- Be patient and give others time and room.
- Watch your speed.
- Expect to encounter different road users i.e. horse riders in rural locations.
- Be ready for others to make mistakes.
- Do not get distracted by using a mobile phone while driving.
- Concentrate on your driving.
- Dutch Reach: Where you are able to do so, you should open the vehicle door using your hand on the opposite side to the door you are opening; for example, use your left hand to open a door on your right-hand side. This will make you turn your head to look over your shoulder. You are then more likely to avoid causing injury to cyclists or motorcyclists passing you on the road, or to people on the pavement.



Drivers should always be mindful of other road users, especially those who are vulnerable due to a lack of protection. Vulnerable road users include:

Pedestrians – especially children can walk into the road with little warning. Over 30 child pedestrians are killed or seriously injured each week. Drive with extra care in shopping and in residential areas.

Cyclists – Drivers should give way to any cyclists in a cycle lane, and not cut across them when turning or changing lanes. Always be prepared to stop and wait for a safe gap in a flow of cyclists before crossing the cycle lane.

Motorcyclists and moped riders – are more difficult to spot at night where their light is obscured by other vehicles' lights. Be extra cautious when moving out of a junction.

Disabled, elderly and inexperienced drivers – make allowances for older drivers and disabled drivers as their reactions may be slower, or they may simply need more time than other drivers.

Animals – do not scare animals by sounding the horn, revving the engine, or accelerating rapidly after passing them.

