

Wednesday, 12 September 2007

For Immediate Use

Drivers urged to belt up and slow down

THE drivers of light commercial vehicles are being urged to use their seatbelts and make sure they watch their speed on Scotland's roads.

Throughout tomorrow (Thursday, 13 September 2007) police patrols will be paying particular attention to drivers of light vans and other commercial vehicles as part of the latest Speeding/Seatbelt Awareness Day organised by the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (ACPOS).

John Vine, Chief Constable of Tayside and chair of the ACPOS road policing business area, said: "We are determined to make Scotland's roads safer by any means at our disposal. Speeding and failing to wear a seatbelt are dangerous choices to make and contribute to the injuries associated with road accidents.

"Some drivers of light commercial vehicles seem to be unaware that they are limited to a maximum of 60 miles per hour and not 70 on dual carriageway roads, whilst a minority of others still believe it is safe to carry passengers in the back of their vehicle regardless of the fact that there is no seat or seatbelt. Such a decision will cost the driver a minimum of 3 points and a £60 fine."

He added: "The injuries caused to drivers and passengers not restrained by seatbelts can be horrific or even fatal and that should be in the front of everyone's mind when they travel by car or van. The message is clear – Don't risk it! – the consequences are not just points on your licence and a fine but potentially death or serious injury.

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Notes to News Editors

For further information please contact David Steele at ACPOS Communications on 0141 435 1240 or 07771 842 881.

