

## County Councillor's Report 29<sup>th</sup> August - Kingskerswell

The Vision Zero South West road safety partnership has issued a plea to motorists to slow down on roads in South Devon.

More than 1,800 drivers were caught exceeding the speed limit on a 40mph stretch of the A380 Torbay Link Road in just over six hours of speed monitoring.

1,821 drivers were detected travelling over the speed limit.

126 drivers were detected travelling at speeds over 60mph.

The top speed recorded was 75mph.

Between 2018 and 2022, there have been nine serious collisions and 30 slight collisions on the A380 between Edginswell and Tweenaway Cross, which has prompted a safety warning from Devon & Cornwall Police's Head of Road Safety, Adrian Leisk.

He said: "Sadly, there is clearly a significant problem on this section and these numbers are far too high for such a busy road. This is particularly concerning given that emergency services have attended nine serious collisions here in the past few years.

"The Marlton Way section is a 40mph limit and clearly signed as such. The speed limits were introduced by Devon County Council following junction reconfiguration at Preston Down Roundabout and the construction of the new Kings Ash section by Torbay Council, designed to reduce the risks around approaching queuing or slow-moving traffic heading into Paignton.

"We know that speed is a major cause in fatal and serious collisions. Travelling too fast not only gives you less time to react, but also significantly increases the likelihood of sustaining fatal or serious injuries in the event of a crash.

"Please heed this advice that our Speed Detection Team will be making regular visits to this section over the coming weeks to focus awareness around the posted speed limit. This isn't about making money, it's about keeping people safe."

Trading Standards are reminding businesses, such as takeaways, sandwich bars, care homes and retailers who supply certain single-use plastic items, that a ban comes into force on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October, and that they should start thinking now about alternatives and where to source them from.

The ban includes all single-use plastic cutlery, trays, plates, bowls, and balloon sticks, as well as banning the use of certain types of polystyrene cups and food containers used to supply food that is ready to consume.

There are some exemptions to the ban. You can read more about the change at

[Plastics.Consultation@defra.gov.uk](mailto:Plastics.Consultation@defra.gov.uk)

The ban includes the supply of items by businesses from new and existing stock and includes single-use plastic that is biodegradable, compostable, recycled and items wholly or partly made from plastic, including the coating or lining.

Businesses who continue to supply banned single-use plastic items after the legislation comes into effect could be given a fine. It is estimated that England uses 2.7 billion items of single use cutlery each year, and 721 million single-use plates. Only 10% of these items are recycled.

Certain plastic items, such as straws, stirrers and cotton buds, have already been banned.

Plastic pollution takes hundreds of years to break down and inflicts serious damage to our oceans, rivers, and land. It is also a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, from the production and manufacture of the plastic itself to the way it is disposed.

Businesses could: Swap plastic for bamboo or wooden cutlery for takeaway food; Swap plastic for metal cutlery for inhouse guests; Swap single use plastic plates or bowls to re-usable alternatives that can be washed; Offer paper plates instead of plastic; Offer to refill customers' water bottles or travel cups and Encourage customers to bring their own clean containers for takeaway food

The next series of the highly successful webinars, aimed at parents of teenagers and pre-teens, is about to begin.

And again, the Let's Talk Teenagers and Let's Talk Pre-Teens series will cover a range of topics relevant to young people.

The series provides online support sessions and an opportunity for parents and carers of teenagers and pre-teens to hear about the challenges young people are facing today, and discover ways to help them navigate their way through them.

Delivered by parenting experts, they discuss the tools and techniques that can be used to support young people and their community.

The Let's Talk Teenagers sessions will run on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. See <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lets-talk-teenagers-september-2023-tickets-671337938847?aff=oddtcreator>

And the Let's Talk Pre-Teen sessions will run on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. See <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lets-talk-pre-teens-september-2023-tickets-680101400597?aff=oddtcreator>

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