



Sample Policy Template (VRU - Vulnerable Road User)

For reference only:

We recognise that some road users are vulnerable and warrant special consideration and greater vigilance to protect their safety and wellbeing. It is your responsibility as a driver to share the roads safely with all road users including pedestrians (children & elderly), cyclists, horse riders and motorcyclists.

Prepare yourself:

- Refresh your knowledge of the Highway Code, **the official guidance within the Highway Code changed in January 2022. The new guidance on the Hierarchy of Road Users, is aimed at making the roads safer for vulnerable road users.**
- If you need glasses (or contact lenses) to meet the Highway Code's minimum vision standards, you must wear them at all times while driving.
- Always make sure you are fit to drive, both mentally and physically.

Plan your journey:

- If you can't avoid cyclist commuter routes, try to travel at a less busy times (if possible).
- Be particularly vigilant around schools and nursing homes.
- Plan your route to minimise reversing.
- Be extra vigilant for vulnerable road users when parking or performing slow speed manoeuvres such as turn in the road or reversing around corners.
- Remember to turn the radio off, open the window and actively look and listen for other road users when manoeuvring your vehicle. If in doubt, remember GOAL, Get Out And Look.

Check your vehicle; complete a daily walk-round check to ensure that:

- Mirrors are clean, correctly adjusted and set to minimise blind spots.
- Windows are clean and clear.
- Lights and indicators are working, clean, and can be seen.
- Tyres are correctly inflated, in good condition with adequate tread depth.

While driving:

Look out for pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists

- Keep checking for cyclists, pedestrians and motorcyclists who may weave through stationary traffic.
- Check your mirrors for cyclists before they indicate, vary their speed or change direction.
- Keep scanning your mirrors when approaching junctions in case a cyclist enters your blind spot.
- Before pulling away from junctions, try to make eye contact with the cyclists so they know you have seen them.
- Check your nearside blind spot or mirror every time you turn left.
- Check over your shoulder and in your driving mirrors for cyclists before opening your door to ensure it doesn't open into their path.
- Always be considerate to horse riders, slowdown in good time and when it is safe, pass them slowly with low engine revs to avoid scaring the horses.
- Check your driving mirrors and Indicate clearly and in good time.
- Indicate in good time to allow others to react.
- Turn off your indicator once you have completed your manoeuvre to avoid giving false information to other road users.

Leave space:

- Give cyclists plenty of space so that they can manoeuvre to avoid potholes, drain covers or car doors.
- When overtaking, give cyclists and motorcyclists at least as much space as you would a car.
- Do not cross stop lines or encroach on Advance Stop Lines.
- Cycle lanes are for cyclists: do not drive or park in a cycle lane marked by a solid white line while it is operational, or drive or park in one marked by broken white line, unless it is unavoidable.
- When passing horse riders, slow down early and give as much room as possible.

For clarification or further information please contact –

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