

Livestock - Rural road safety

Why is this important?

Livestock are frequently killed or injured on rural roads in Devon and Cornwall. There is a risk of injury to drivers and passengers as well as damage to vehicles and causing unnecessary suffering for animals. Incidents can have a financial and emotional impact for farmers and livestock owners.

What do you need to do?

Reduce collisions with livestock with simple prevention measures. Working together, landowners, rural businesses and members of the public should be vigilant reporting collisions or incidents to the police - noting vehicle details, descriptions and an accurate location. There is a legal requirement to report road traffic collisions involving livestock to the police.

How can you prevent this?

- If you see livestock or other vulnerable road users reduce speed, be patient, pass slow and wide.
- Drive responsibly, anticipate hazards, take note of road signs, ensure your vehicle is road worthy.
- Where possible livestock owners can consider feeding away from roads, check fencing and secure gates.
- Farmers or public can consider the use of dash cams and upload certain traffic offences to Op Snap - <https://operationsnap.devon-cornwall.police.uk/>
- Notify the police using 999 if you suspect an offence is being committed.
- If you have any information about livestock road safety please email 101@dc.police.uk, call the non-emergency number, 101 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.
- Join Devon & Cornwall Alert, Watch schemes and local social media groups so that you can find out what is happening in your area.

The Devon and Cornwall police rural affairs team have produced a calendar which highlights rural issues throughout the year to focus problem solving activity for police, partners and public with key messages and prevention activity

