

- Don't drive if you have consumed any alcohol or taken drugs. Even over-the-counter medicines can affect your ability to drive safely – read the label to see if they may affect your driving.
- Make sure everyone in the car is wearing a seat belt throughout the journey.
- Keep your speed down – many serious collisions happen because the driver loses control, particularly on bends.
- Most new drivers have no experience of driving high-powered or sporty cars. Unless you have learnt to drive in such a vehicle you need to get plenty of experience driving on your own before driving a more powerful car.
- Driving while uninsured is an offence. See Annex 3 for information on types of insurance cover.

**REMEMBER** that under the New Drivers Order you will have your licence revoked if you get six penalty points on your licence within two years of passing your first driving tests. You will need to pass both the theory and practical tests again to get back your full licence.

You could consider taking further training or obtaining an advanced driving qualification which could save you money on your insurance as well as helping you reduce your risk of being involved in a collision. There are three ways to find out more:

- internet [www.roadsafetyni.gov.uk](http://www.roadsafetyni.gov.uk)
- telephone DOE Road Safety Branch 028 9054 0040
- email [roadsafety@doeni.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafety@doeni.gov.uk)

## Other information

### Metric conversions

The conversions given throughout *The Highway Code* are rounded, but a detailed conversion chart is shown below.

| Miles | Kilometres | Miles | Kilometres |
|-------|------------|-------|------------|
| 1.00  | 1.61       | 40.00 | 64.37      |
| 5.00  | 8.05       | 45.00 | 72.42      |
| 10.00 | 16.09      | 50.00 | 80.47      |
| 15.00 | 24.14      | 55.00 | 88.51      |
| 20.00 | 32.19      | 60.00 | 96.56      |

| Miles | Kilometres | Miles | Kilometres |
|-------|------------|-------|------------|
| 25.00 | 40.23      | 65.00 | 104.60     |
| 30.00 | 48.28      | 70.00 | 112.65     |
| 35.00 | 56.33      |       |            |

## Useful websites

St John Ambulance Association and Brigade ([www.sja.org.uk](http://www.sja.org.uk))

Order of Malta Ambulance Corps ([www.orderofmalta.ie](http://www.orderofmalta.ie))

British Red Cross ([www.redcross.co.uk](http://www.redcross.co.uk))

[www.roadsafetyni.gov.uk](http://www.roadsafetyni.gov.uk)

[www.roadsni.gov.uk](http://www.roadsni.gov.uk)

[www.trafficwatchni.com](http://www.trafficwatchni.com)

[www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

[www.dvani.gov.uk](http://www.dvani.gov.uk)

[www.roadsafetycouncil.com](http://www.roadsafetycouncil.com)

[www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk)

[www.rsa.ie](http://www.rsa.ie)

[www.nra.ie](http://www.nra.ie)

### Best practice

Further information about good driving and riding practice can be found in the Driving Standards Agency books *The Official DSA Guide to Driving – the essential skills* and *The Official DSA Guide to Riding – the essential skills*. Information specifically for drivers of large vehicles can be found in *The Official DSA Guide to Driving Goods Vehicles* and *The Official DSA Guide to Driving Buses and Coaches*.

### Blue Badge Scheme

Information on this scheme can be found on the Department for Regional Department's Roads Service website [www.roadsni.gov.uk](http://www.roadsni.gov.uk)

### Code of Practice for Horse-Drawn Vehicles

The Code of Practice is available from the Department for Transport, Transport Technology and Standards Division 6, 2nd Floor, Great Minster House, 76 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DR. Tel 0207 944 2078

### Road Works

A leaflet giving further information on driving through road works can be obtained from Highways Agency Publications, tel 0870 1226 236, quoting reference number HA113/04, For general Highways Agency information, tel 08457 504030 or email [info@highways.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info@highways.gsi.gov.uk).