



# Normalising Conversations About Driver Health

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# Fitness to Drive:

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# Fitness to Drive: CASE STUDY 1



- Couple on cycling holiday stop on pavement to put on their waterproofs

- Vehicle crosses carriageway and drives along the pavement striking both cyclists.

- Emergency services attend and cyclist pronounced dead. Other cyclist has serious injuries, driver minor injuries.

- Collision Investigation concludes the collision was as a result of the car crossing the carriageway, travelling along the pavement and colliding with the 2 cyclists. Driver surrenders driving licence to DVLA.

- Driver passed eyesight test, claimed to have swerved to avoid an animal, had no other recollection of the collision.

- Driver diagnosed as suffering from medical condition (sudden loss of consciousness or fainting)

- Enquiry revealed family were aware driver was suffering from condition, but GP and DVLA had not been informed



# Fitness to Drive: The Issue...



# Fitness to Drive: Whose Responsibility?

## DVLA Requirements

- Requirement to declare
- Requirement to surrender licence

## Healthcare Professionals

- DVLA Guidance
- Trust
- Confidentiality
- Consent to disclose

## Society's Role...



# Fitness to Drive: Difficult Conversations

1. What are the concerns?
2. Understand the alternatives
3. Acknowledge the difficulties
4. Give them time



# Fitness to Drive: Enforcement & Education



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**Tony Probee** Hi, if you find you need to wear glasses for driving, do you need to tell dvla. Thank you

22w

"Most relevant" is selected, so some replies may have been filtered out.



**Highland & Islands Police Division** Hi Tony, it will depend on each individual circumstances. You must tell the DVLA if you've got a problem that affects both of your eyes or your remaining eye if you've only got one. But that doesn't include if you short/long sighted or colour blind. The best place to check for more info is: <https://www.gov.uk/driving-eyesight-rules>



# Fitness to Drive: Reporting Mechanisms

- Individual
- Medical Professionals
- Family/Friends
- Anonymous
- Police



The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website page for reporting a medical condition to DVLA. The page has a black header with the GOV.UK logo and a search bar. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Driving and transport > Driving with medical conditions, Blue Badges and public transport if you're disabled. The main heading is 'Tell DVLA about a medical condition that could affect your driving'. Below this, it states: 'You must tell DVLA about a health or medical condition that could affect your driving.' A grey box contains the text: 'This service is also available [in Welsh \(Cymraeg\)](#).' Below that, it says: 'You'll need to enter details about your current driving licence and your condition. You might also need to give your GP's name and address.' A warning icon (exclamation mark in a circle) is followed by the text: 'You can be fined up to £1,000 if you do not tell DVLA about a medical condition that affects your driving.' A green button with white text says 'Start now >'. On the right side, under 'Related content', there are several links: 'Check if a health condition affects your driving', 'Medical conditions, disabilities and driving', 'Reapply for a driving licence following a medical condition', 'Driving eyesight rules', and 'Contact DVLA'. At the bottom, under 'Explore the topic', there are links for 'Driving licences' and 'Driving with medical conditions, Blue Badges and public transport if you're disabled'.

GOV.UK

Search

Home > Driving and transport > Driving with medical conditions, Blue Badges and public transport if you're disabled

## Tell DVLA about a medical condition that could affect your driving

You must tell DVLA about a health or medical condition that could affect your driving.

This service is also available [in Welsh \(Cymraeg\)](#).

You'll need to enter details about your current driving licence and your condition. You might also need to give your GP's name and address.

**!** You can be fined up to £1,000 if you do not tell DVLA about a medical condition that affects your driving.

[Start now >](#)

**Related content**

- [Check if a health condition affects your driving](#)
- [Medical conditions, disabilities and driving](#)
- [Reapply for a driving licence following a medical condition](#)
- [Driving eyesight rules](#)
- [Contact DVLA](#)

**Explore the topic**


- [Driving licences](#)
- [Driving with medical conditions, Blue Badges and public transport if you're disabled](#)



# Fitness to Drive: Next Steps



# Fitness to Drive: CASE STUDY 2



- Driver accompanied by partner. Car seen to clip the road verge before crossing the carriageway and entering water. Both occupants died.

- Enquiries revealed the driver suffered from epilepsy from childhood and had a seizure earlier that day. Their licence had been revoked due to this condition but returned 7 years earlier following medical tests.

- 3 years after the return of their licence a medical questionnaire was completed by the driver's GP. The driver was not present when this was carried out. This was forwarded to DVLA and they retained their licence.

- 3 weeks prior to the collision the driver visited their GP as they had been involved in a collision and there were concerns regarding their fitness to drive. The driver denied having had a seizure to the GP.

- Enquiries revealed partner, family and community were aware the driver was suffering from blackouts but DVLA were not informed



# Fitness to Drive: Questions?

