



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Galway County Council

ROAD SAFETY WEEK – 6th to 12th October, 2025

It's never too early to
learn about road safety

VISION
ZERO



IRISH ROAD SAFETY WEEK 2025
6 - 12 Oct

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Road Safety Together Committee

Galway County Council's Road Safety Together Committee consists of representatives from Galway County Council, Galway City Council, Elected Member, Road Safety Authority, An Garda Síochána, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and An Taisce.

The Committee meets regularly and jointly examines options available to improve road safety for motorists, pedestrians, motorcyclists, cyclists, e-scooter users and road users, in general.

2024 Road Safety Authority Statistics:

- 172 people lost their lives on Irish Roads in 2024 - 180 died in 2023
- In 2024, there were 127 Males and 45 Females killed on our roads
- 38% of road users were killed on 80 km/h roads
- 27% of road users were killed on 100 km/h roads
- Vulnerable road user fatalities - 33 Pedestrians/ 17 Motorcyclists/ 12 Cyclists/ 3 E-scooter users
- 9% of drivers and passengers killed were not wearing a seatbelt
- Sunday was the most dangerous day of the week
- 35% of fatalities were aged 25 years or younger
- Almost a quarter, 24%, of fatalities occurred between 4pm and 8pm



- Display Stand in County Hall's Atrium

- **Road Safety Awareness Literature** is available on the following:

- driving under the influence of drugs
- seat belt wearing
- mobile phone and driving
- Look Out! Stand Out!
- Going to School - advice for parents & guardians
- speeding
- driver tiredness
- medicines and driving
- guide to tyre safety
- cycle safety
- motorcycles/ mopeds
- child safety in cars
- motorway driving
- driver licensing rules for drawing light trailers
- learner drivers
- roundabouts: using the correct lane
- revised standards for agricultural vehicles
- the bright way to save lives!
- road safety information for charitable events on public roads
- ‘Arrive Alive’ – car disc holder



Photo: Deirdre Caulfield, Road Safety Officer and Cllr. David Collins, Cathaoirleach, promoting the wearing of high visibility vests on these dark evenings

- **Bike Safety/ Maintenance Event at St. Brendan’s National School, Loughrea**

On Wednesday, 8th October, a Bike Safety/ Maintenance Event will take place at St. Brendan’s National School, Loughrea. Approx. 30-40 pupils will be given guidance on maintaining their bikes - checking their brakes, tyres, lights, gears, reflectors, chain, saddle, handlebars, bell and the wearing of correctly fitted helmets and high visibility gear. On the day, the pupils will be given free high vis vests, armbands, high vis string bags and bike lights in order that they will be well lit up on their journeys!

o **Fire Service Demonstration - Campaign aimed at Young Drivers-to-Be**



On Thursday, 9th October, Galway Co. Council, in conjunction with Galway Fire & Rescue Service, An Cheathrú Rua; Galway Civil Defence and An Garda Síochána, will team up for a road safety awareness event aimed at teenagers at Scoil Phobail Mhic Dara, Carna. Coláiste na bPíarsach, Ros Muc, students will also be attending.

The secondary school students who are about to become young drivers will have an opportunity to experience what happens at the scene of a road traffic collision – a car dismantling demonstration will take place and a person will be released from a vehicle. Crew from the Fire Service and Civil Defence will be present, along with An Garda Síochána, to advise the 100 plus students present. The aim of this initiative is to raise awareness of what happens at the scene of an incident which will hopefully prevent the young drivers-to-be becoming involved in road traffic incidents that all too often result in serious injury or death.

On Friday, 10th October, this event will be taking place at Clifden Community School.



Photo: Fire Service Demo held at Clifden Community School in Oct. 2024



Photo: Fire Service Demo held at Coláiste Cholmcille, Indreabhán, in Oct. 2024

○ Be Safe, Be Seen! - Campaign aimed at University of Galway Students

Galway Co. Council, in conjunction with University of Galway's Students Union, are running a road safety awareness campaign encouraging students who walk or cycle to college to arrive safely. High visibility vests will be distributed to students attending the college during Road Safety Week, courtesy of the Council.



○ Specsavers Offer



To ensure the correct vision for driving, the Road Safety Committee encourages everyone to have an Sight Test at least every 2 years. Specsavers Headford Road (Galway Shopping Centre) are currently offering standard Sight Tests at a reduced cost of €15 (normally €30) from 6th to 31st October 2025. In addition, they will offer a discount on anti-reflective lenses which help reduce glare while driving, details available in store. Please contact Specsavers directly, in relation to this offer – Phone 091 507050 / or book online: [Specsavers.ie/book/headfordroad/appointment-type](https://www.specsavers.ie/book/headfordroad/appointment-type). **Please note that Specsavers stores are independently owned, so this offer applies to the Headford Road store only and excludes OCT scans.*

○ 'Arrive Alive'



Galway Co. Council's 'Arrive Alive' initiative advises on No Texting and Driving. Car Discs Holders are available, free of charge, to members of the public through its Motor Tax Offices. If you would like one, please email: ochala@galwaycoco.ie

o **Don't wait – check your tyres today!**

Tyres are the only part of your vehicle in contact with the road and their importance is often overlooked. Defective tyres can be a contributing factor in fatal or serious road collisions. Based on analysis of road collision reports, the RSA estimates that defective tyres could be a contributory factor in as many as 14 deaths each year. Up to 162,000 motorists fail NCT annually from tyres in poor condition.



Irish Tyre Industry Association (ITIA) urges drivers to check tyres – today, 6th October, is Tyre Safety Day. ITIA dealers nationwide are offering **free tyre safety checks**, including a pressure test, tread depth inspection and an overall condition assessment, up to Sat. 11th October. There are six locations in Galway – Ballinasloe Tyre Centre; Loughrea Tyre Centre; Kevin Burke Tyres, Tuam Road; Bestdrive, Headford Road, Galway; First Stop, Tuam Road, Galway and Ballybrit Exhaust & Tyre Centre, Galway.

o **BestDrive FREE Vehicle ‘Health Check’**

As the evenings are getting shorter and the weather gets more changeable, it is of the utmost importance that your vehicle is in proper working order. For the month of October, BestDrive is offering road-users the opportunity to avail of BestDrive’s **Free 5 Point Safety Check** to ensure that the vehicle’s *Tyres, Brakes, Shocks, Lights/ Levels and Wipers* are working correctly. It will give peace of mind knowing your car is fit for driving this winter. The check takes approx. 15 minutes.

If you want to avail of this, please book in advance on their website on www.bestdrive.ie or ring: Ph. 091 562154. Location: BestDrive, Headford Road, Galway City (beside LIDL) – Opening Hours – Mon.-Fri. 8.30a.m.-6.00 p.m. Sat. 9.00a.m.-5.00 p.m.

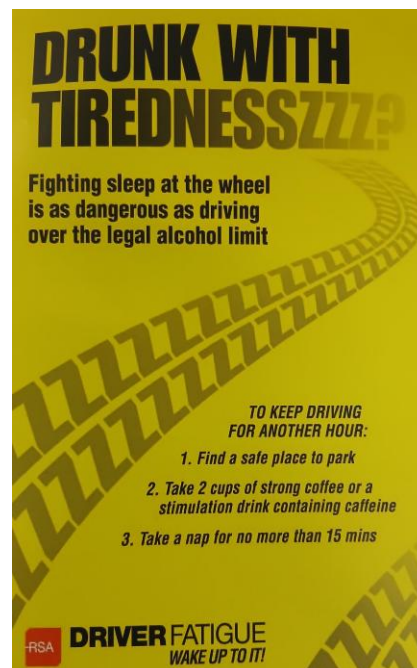
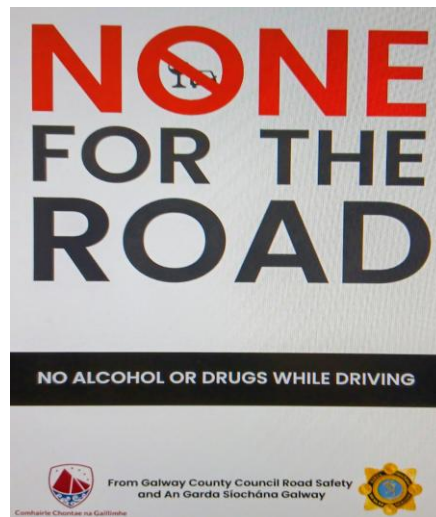


Photo: BestDrive will distribute the Council’s ‘Arrive Alive’ Disc Holders and RSA ‘Driver Fatigue’ Booklet, to their customers

o Road Safety Awareness Adverts

The Council recently teamed up with Pearl & Dean and SuperValu and are running road safety awareness advertisements on 21 Digital Screens in various locations, throughout the county. The messages have an eye-catching image, with a simple, easy-to-digest message.



o 'Be Bright' Campaign aimed at ATU

Galway County Council has teamed up with ATU's Students Union and a road safety awareness campaign is taking place which will ensure pedestrians and cyclists visibility on our roads whereby high visibility vests, courtesy of the RSA will be distributed to students attending the college.



○ Cycling Training for National Schools

A National Cycling Training Programme ‘Cycle Right’, in conjunction with Cycling Ireland and the Road Safety Authority, is available to all national schools in Co. Galway for the 2025/'26 school year. The training upskills young cyclists and outlines tips on safer cycling and the use of a helmet at all times. In August, '25, the Council's Road Safety Officer advised all national schools of funding towards the cost of this worthwhile course.



Photo: Pupils carrying out the Cycle Training Course at Claregalway National School – Sept. 2025



Photo: Pupils carrying out the Cycle Training Course at Lurga National School, Gort, with Aisling Moroney, Teacher, Deirdre Caulfield, Road Safety Officer and Leroy Kulczynski, Cycle Safe Ireland Trainer – Sept. 2025

○ The bright way to SAVE LIVES!

It's not just at night that you need to turn on your lights:

Bright thinking:

- Preventing head-on and front-corner collisions which frequently occur during the daytime
- Making it easier to identify oncoming vehicles in the distance
- Promoting safe road user behaviour
- Encouraging all motorists to turn their lights on
- Exposing motorists with faulty lights

Brighter future: Dipped headlights can help reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on our roads. SO REMEMBER, 'Lights on to Save Lives!'



o High Visibility Vests

High visibility vests are distributed free-of-charge to members of staff and the general public, on an on-going basis, courtesy of the Council and Road Safety Authority.

Craughwell National School recently commenced a 'Walking Bus' to school on Wednesdays where the children meet at the village hall and walk to school together – the Council provided high visibility vests to the children to ensure their visibility and safety. The RSA's Information leaflets on 'Going to School – A guide to getting children to school safely' and 'Cycle Safety – some tips on safer cycling' were also distributed to the pupils.



Coláiste Chroí Mhuire, An Spidéal, TY students availed of high visibility vests to ensure their visibility when they are out and about on excursions/ events – also in photo is Hilary Vesey, TY Co-Ordinator and Deirdre Caulfield, Road Safety Officer.



Free High Vis Vests !

If you would like to avail of a High Visibility Vest, please email your preferred size to - ochala@galwaycoco.ie or call to the Public Counter, Roads Department, in Áras an Chontae. Adult Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL and Kids Sizes: Age: 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12 years. For Teenagers, size Small generally suits.



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