



## MOBILE PHONE USE WHEN DRIVING

Last year in the UK a total of twenty-two people were killed and 99 seriously injured in road accidents where drivers were found to be using a mobile phone.

On 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 lorry driver Tomasz Kroker was jailed for 10 years after killing Tracy Houghton (45), her sons Ethan (13), Joshua (11) and her partner's daughter Aimee Goldsmith (11) whilst he was scrolling through music on his phone.



On 1st March 2017 tougher penalties for using a hand held phone or similar device whilst driving were introduced:

- Penalty points and fines doubled to six points and £200.
- New drivers can have their licence revoked if they accrue six points within two years of passing their test, meaning they can now lose their license for sending a single text.
- Those caught using their mobile twice, or who accrue 12 points on their licence, will face disqualification and fines of up to £1,000.

## Recommendations and action points

The company Management of Road Risk Policy [SMS-POL-012](#), and Drivers Handbook both outline company rules on using mobile devices whilst driving. If, after assessing the situation, you consider it is acceptable to use a mobile phone, the following rules will apply:

- **The phone must not be hand held;**
- **Users should make incoming callers aware that they are driving and seek to minimise call duration and complexity;**
- **Calls should be brief and restricted to business use;**
- **Interrogative, intense, or prolonged calls should be avoided;**
- **Outgoing calls are prohibited;**
- **Hand held devices can only be used once the vehicle is parked safely, hand brake on, engine turned off and key removed from the ignition.**