

Interactive DVD is launched to support speed awareness course

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A new interactive DVD has been launched to support the speed awareness course which is offered to some motorists caught flouting the limit on Staffordshire's roads.

The SpeedSense DVD is being offered to drivers who attend the session and gives people the chance to practice what they have learnt in a bid avoid future lapses.

The course looks at why people exceed the speed limits and helps drivers to develop a personal speed awareness strategy.

The free interactive DVD will be given to people following completion of the course which is run by Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership.

Speed awareness courses are only offered to motorists that have been caught exceeding the limit, but within the parameters set by Staffordshire Police. It is an alternative to prosecution under the fixed penalty system.

SpeedSense explores a whole host of topics that are covered in the course including the concept of COAST - concentration, observation, anticipation, space and time.

It runs on a standard computer and features a variety of useful defensive driving techniques via quizzes, video footage games and a library of useful hints and tips.

Drivers are encouraged to share the DVD with their family and friends to further drive the message home to other motorists.

Staffordshire County Councillor Mike Maryon, Cabinet member of Road Safety, said he was pleased that the information would now reach even more people.

He added: "We believe very strongly that education makes a much more worthwhile contribution to reducing road casualties than prosecution which is why we are committed to offering courses like the speed awareness session.

"We receive hundreds of positive comments about the courses, with many suggesting that all drivers should be given the opportunity to attend.

"Whilst this is not an option as it is offered through only as an alternative to prosecution, the development of SpeedSense means that many more people will

have the opportunity to enhance or refresh their driving skills and in the comfort of their own home."

SpeedSense also has a website:

www.speed-sense.co.uk which contains more information and samples of the content.