

Equestrians Vulnerable Road Users

David R. Kerry

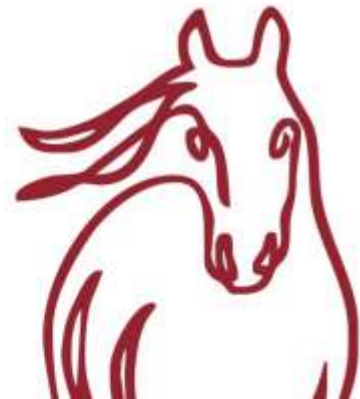
MCIHT; MAIRSO; AMRSGB

Trustee of The British Horse Society

Chairman of The BHS Safety Advisory Committee



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The British Horse Society

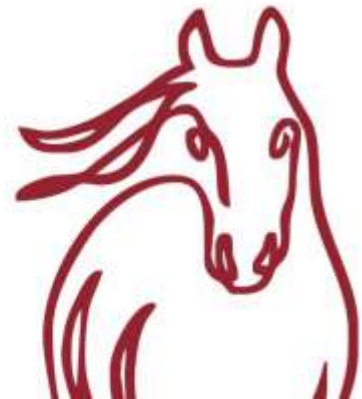


is a charity

It's aim is to improve the
lives of horses through
Welfare, Safety, Access,
Education



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BHS Education



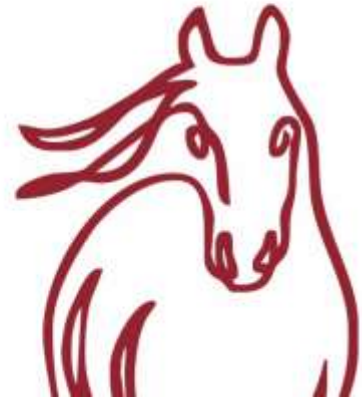
Helping people to reach their goals
Helping equine businesses to thrive

The best riding centres,
qualifications and training

Improving knowledge
and standards in the industry



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Equestrian Statistics

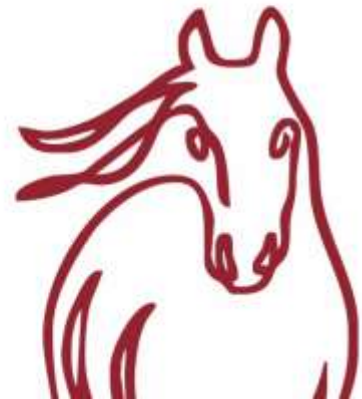


There are over 2.4 million horse riders in the UK

Horses are fight or flight prey animals

Good hearing but some vision blindspots

On average, a horse weighs half a ton



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Why ride on the road?

Given the choice most horseriders would not ride on the public highway

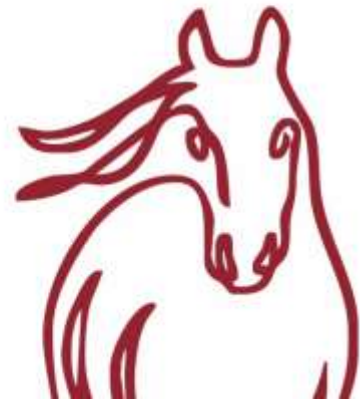
Only 22% of the 188,70 kilometres of Public Rights of Way in England carry rights for horses

Only 5% are available for carriage drivers

Most do not link to form an off-road circuit



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Accident Data Collection



www.horseaccidents.org.uk

Dog attacks

Low-flying aircraft

Wind turbines

Fireworks

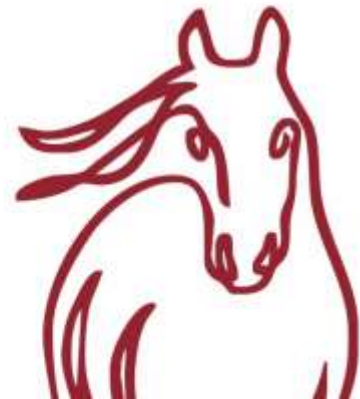
Gates

Road traffic incidents

Slippery road surfaces



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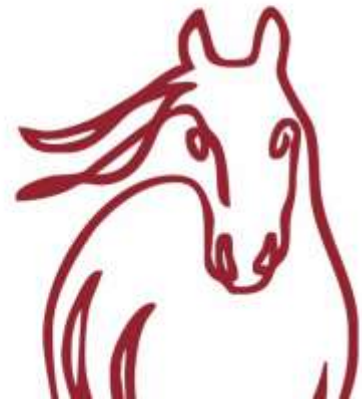


Road Traffic Collisions



Over 50% of all road collisions involving horses happen on minor roads

Most injuries to horses are to the rear end



Collision Data



In 2011

225 incidents including

8 rider fatalities

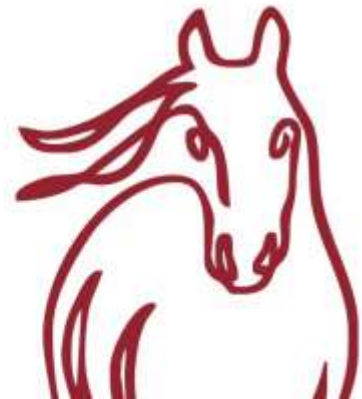
52 serious rider injuries

19 horse fatalities

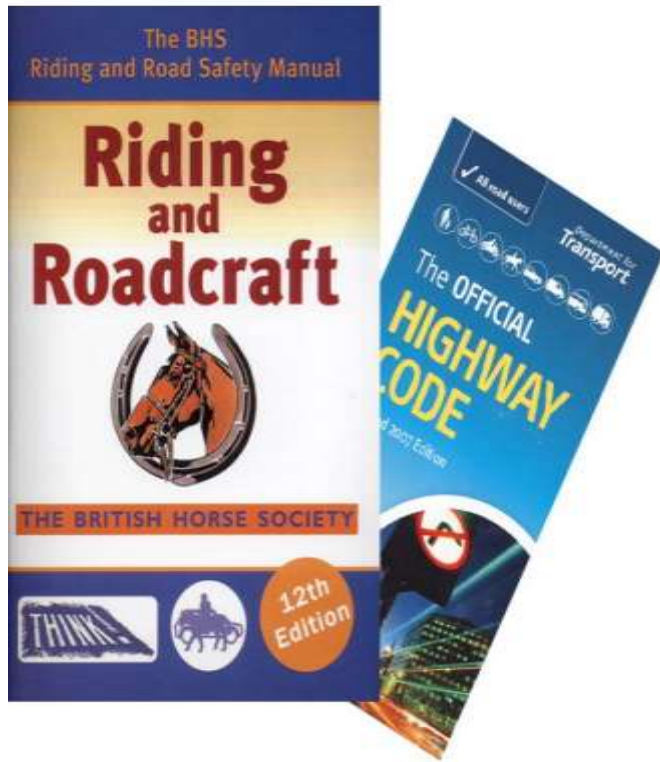
18 serious horse injuries



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Rider Education and Training



Riding and Road Safety
Training and Testing

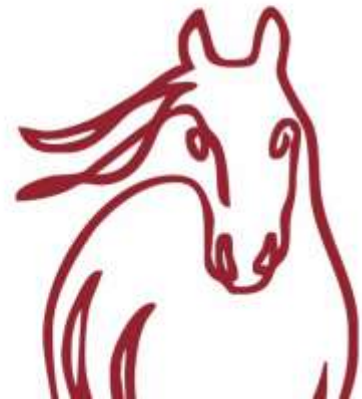
Riding & Roadcraft Manual

High visibility clothing for
horse and rider

Examiners and Trainers
up-date training sessions



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Education for Drivers



Leaflets and television advertising

Working with DfT

GEM

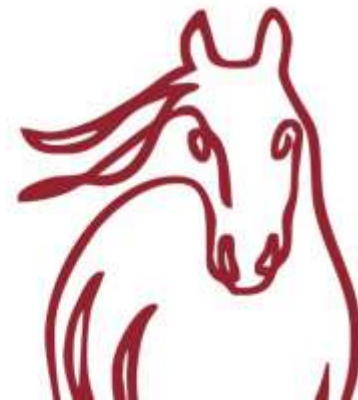
Highways Agency

RoSPA

Police



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Current Issues



Speeding drivers

Slippery road surfaces
(SMA)

Road plates at roadwork
sites

Towing and weight
regulations

Bridge parapet heights

Equestrian crossings



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