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RAC response to 800% increase in arrests for drug driving

The Press Association is today reporting that drug-drive arrests have soared by up to 800% in the 12 months since new laws were introduced, according to the Department for Transport (DfT). Legal driving limits were laid down for 17 prescription and illegal drugs on March 2 last year.

The DfT published provisional figures from Cheshire Police which show its officers arrested more than 530 suspected drug-drivers from March 2015 to last month, up from just 70 in the whole of 2014.

In response RAC chief engineer David Bizley says: “Research from the RAC Report on Motoring shows that 19% of UK drivers rank driving under the influence of drugs among their top four motoring concerns and therefore the recent figures published on enforcement of the new drug driving laws will be welcome news to many motorists.

“The 800% increase in drug driving arrests reported by Cheshire Police and the 50% positive results of drug driving tests conducted by police across England and Wales over the Christmas period, shows that the new roadside testing equipment is really making a difference.

“Enforcement is always most effective as a deterrent when combined with information and education and therefore the latest THINK! drug driving campaign is timely and well directed.”

The press office email address is press.office@rac.co.uk and media centre is at media.rac.co.uk. **Please note:** the press office is unable to help with

individual customer enquiries - please visit the [RAC contacts page](#) to find the right contact.

About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to nearly 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC's breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using [myRAC](#) – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the [RAC website](#).

Contacts



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