

Illegal off-road riding

Why is this important?

Illegal off-road riding and driving cause real damage to the landscape, heritage sites and can harm livestock. The use of off-road vehicles without authority is an offence, causes anti social issues and in some cases the vehicles are uninsured and illegal for use on the road.

What do you need to do?

Under the Road Traffic Act using a mechanically propelled vehicle without lawful authority on common land, moorland, on any footpath or bridleway is an offence. Ensure you have permission to carry out the activity. Members of the public should be vigilant reporting incidents to the police.

How can you prevent this?

- Be aware of where you are riding and ensure you have permission. Your vehicle could be seized.
- Drive responsibly, anticipate hazards, ensure your vehicle is road worthy.
- Landowners can consider securing entrances and the use of appropriate signage.
- Notify the police using 999 if you suspect an offence is being committed and the offenders are still on scene.
- If you have any information about illegal off-road riding or driving please email 101@dc.police.uk, call the non-emergency number, 101 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 783 0137.
- Join Devon & Cornwall Alert, Watch schemes and local social media groups so that you can find out what is happening in your area.

The Devon and Cornwall police rural affairs team have produced a calendar which highlights rural issues throughout the year to focus problem solving activity for police, partners and public with key messages and prevention activity.

