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## Tideswell police target motorists with Operation Safedrive

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Police teamed up to put the brakes on unsafe vehicles and speeding motorists in Baslow as part of Operation Safedrive.

More than 50 motorists were stopped during the operation on the A619 in Baslow in a bid to crack down on offences such as using a mobile phone at the wheel, not wearing a seatbelt and poor vehicle conditions.

Officers from the Tideswell Safer Neighbourhood Team worked alongside the Casualty Reduction and Enforcement Support Team (CREST), North Roads Policing Unit, Collision Investigation Unit and HM Revenue and Customs throughout the operation.

Police stopped 59 motorists during the day of action on Friday, August 29 and issued a mixture of warnings and penalties to:

- 20 motorists for seatbelt offences;
- Eight people for driving while using a mobile phone;
- 12 motorists for lighting offences;
- Seven people for tyre related offences;
- Six people for registration plate offences.

Other issues included trailer and insecure load offences and two motorists for driving without a valid MOT on the vehicle. One motorist was also stopped from continuing with their journey as their vehicle was deemed to have serious defects which affected its safety and roadworthiness.

All vehicles running on diesel also had their fuel tested by HM Revenue and Customs.

Sergeant Andy Wordsworth from the Tideswell Safer Neighbourhood Team said: "This operation was a great opportunity for us to work alongside our partners and reinforce the importance of safe and considerate driving on our roads.

"Although the majority of motorists went on without a problem, it was worrying to see that some people were not wearing a seatbelt or were using a mobile phone behind the wheel and therefore putting the lives of others at risk.

"It is vital to take road safety and traffic issues seriously to keep our roads safe for pedestrians and other road users. We hope that this operation reminds motorists of this message."

Operation Safedrive is an on-going Derbyshire police campaign to educate motorists about responsible driving and make roads across the county safer.

For more information call 101, the non-emergency number for Derbyshire police.

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