

Winter driving advice from DFC.

Points to remember are

- Keep tyres inflated properly. Make sure you always have the legal minimum tread depth of 1.6mm
- Check your lights are working.
- Always keep the windscreen and windows clean and the washer bottle filled.
- Carry winter essentials in the car ie spare washer fluid, ice scraper, de-icer, a torch and a blanket
- Always listen to the weather forecast and only travel if necessary when there are warnings for really bad conditions.
- On long journeys stop every two hours for fresh air and a hot drink
- Keep your vehicle well ventilated
- Always take time to clear your windows of ice and condensation , do not just clear a small section of the windscreen
- Reduce your speed on slippery surfaces and increase the gap between you and the vehicle in front
- Allow up to ten times the normal braking distance
- If you get stuck in snow move slowly backwards and forwards using the highest gear you can
- To brake on snow or ice without locking your wheels, get into a low gear early, allow your speed to fall and always brake gently. If you start to skid ease off the accelerator and avoid braking suddenly.
- Fog drifts rapidly and is often patchy in foggy conditions drive slowly use dipped headlights
- Use fog lights if visibility is reduced and don't hang onto the taillights of the vehicle in front you.
- Don't speed up suddenly even if it seems to be clearing , you may suddenly find yourself back in thick fog
- In wet weather, stopping distances will be at least double those of dry roads
- Keep well back from the vehicle in front
- If steering becomes unresponsive ease off the accelerator and slow down gradually.
- On flooded roads don't attempt to cross if the water seems too deep. Find an alternative route for your journey