

Government bans old coach, bus and lorry tyres from roads in new measures to improve road safety

News story

Tyres aged 10 years and older will be banned.



- tyres aged 10 years and older to be banned to help improve road safety
- clearly visible date of manufacture mandatory on each tyre, ensuring older tyres are easy to spot
- latest action follows years of work by the government and determined efforts of campaigners

Tyres aged 10 years and older will be banned from lorries, buses and coaches on roads in England, Scotland and Wales in a boost to road safety, Roads Minister Baroness Vere announced today (15 July 2020).

The ban follows an extensive investigation, including [research](#) commissioned by the Department for Transport, which indicates ageing tyres suffer corrosion which could cause them to fail.

The move will make it illegal to fit tyres aged 10 years or older to the front wheels of lorries, buses and coaches, and all wheels of minibuses.

The secondary legislation will be laid in the autumn and will also apply to re-treaded tyres – with the date of re-treading to be marked – making the age of the tyre clearly visible.

Roads Minister Baroness Vere said:

In the same way that you wouldn't drive a car with faulty brakes, ensuring your tyres are fit for purpose is crucial in making every journey safer.

Taking this step will give drivers across the country confidence

their lorries, buses and coaches are truly fit for use – a safety boost for road users everywhere.

This change is in no small way the result of years of campaigning, particularly from Frances Molloy, to whom I thank and pay tribute.

Frances Molloy's son Michael died in a coach crash in 2012 when the vehicle had a 19-year-old tyre fitted to the front axle. Since the accident, Mrs Molloy has campaigned to see the law changed.

Drivers, owners and operators are responsible for the safety of their vehicles. This will also now include ensuring vehicle tyres meet the new requirements. The government will also be asking DVSA to continue checking tyre age as part of their routine roadside enforcement activities and adding an additional assessment to the annual test scheme (MOT test).

Today's announcement is the latest step taken to improve road safety, following the launch last year of the [Road Safety Statement](#) and two-year action plan, which set out more than 70 measures to reduce the number of people killed or injured on roads around the country.

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