

NEWS RELEASE

STOCKPORT METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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For Immediate Release

STOCKPORT LAUNCHES WORK ZONE SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

Stockport Council's Streetscene team who deliver a range of services in the borough including highways development, street light maintenance and environmental services, launched a Work Zone Safety Awareness Week on Monday 18th October as part of the eight-week 'Stockport Action For Safety Campaign.'

The aim of Work Zone Safety Awareness Week is to alert motorists to the need for greater caution while driving through areas of the road where people are at work. The campaign aims to reduce fatalities and injuries and to highlight the hazards and dangers when driving through highways work zones.

Across England, an average of 5 road workers are killed and a further 29 are seriously injured each year in roadworks as a result of motor vehicle crashes. The simple fact is that these accidents could often be avoided by drivers slowing down and following speed limits, being aware of workers in their path and not driving aggressively.

Special road signs around roadworks and highways promote the Work Zone Safety Awareness Week, which is to become an annual event, and will run in April every year. Streetscene is currently in discussion with the American Traffic Safety Services Association to co-ordinate its safety week with similar events in the USA.

Councillor Sue Derbyshire, Executive Member for Infrastructure, said: "The Work Zone Safety Awareness Week is an integral part of 'Stockport Action for Safety'. We want to make drivers aware of the fact that many people work on the roads and for these people, the highways are their office space. It is a question of educating drivers and reinforcing the message that care needs to be taken in these areas, as one accident on the roads is an accident too many."

Work Zone Safety Awareness Week coincides with the European Week for Health and Safety.

ENDS

Jpeg caption:

'Everyone is entitled to a safe workplace' - Stockport Council's Work Zone Safety Awareness Campaign

For further information contact Jeanette Livings, Media and Public Relations, on 0161 474 3064 or email jeanette.livings@stockport.gov.uk

**Media and Public Relations
Town Hall
Stockport SK1 3XE
Tel: 0161 474 3063/3064/3071
Fax: 0161 474 3099
Out of office hours: 07800 617508/617509**



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