

What to do if you hit a deer.

We estimate that there are about 500 deer collisions with vehicles each year in and around Ashdown Forest. This number is rising every year. If you hit a deer whilst driving in the area, please take the following steps.

- Stop your vehicle, safely, as close as possible to where the accident occurred.
- Put on your hazard warning lights.
- Wear 'high-vis' clothing if you leave your vehicle on the highway.
- Try to remain calm – especially when calling for assistance.
- Who to call for assistance
 - ☞ If the deer is blocking the road and is causing an obstruction or is a danger to traffic call 999 and ask for the Police
 - ☞ If the deer is at the side of the road and you are unsure if you are on Ashdown Forest call the Police on the non-emergency number 0845 6070999 and they will arrange a Deer Warden to assist you
 - ☞ If you know you are on Ashdown Forest call or 01342 822846 (*please note - one week in four there is no evening/night time deer cover and a recorded message will ask you to call the police*)
 - ☞ If you are **NOT** on Ashdown Forest call the Police on the non-emergency number 0845 6070999 and they will arrange a Deer Warden to assist you
- Give the Police / Forest Ranger / Deer Warden / Police Call Centre as much detailed information as possible about your location (and a mobile number if you have one) – it is often very difficult for us to find an injured animal if the directions are not very specific, especially at night.
- Approaching the animal may cause it more stress, but covering its head (not the body) with a blanket can help calm it. Animals in distress can thrash about so keep clear of antlers and hooves which can inflict painful injuries.
- If you decide not to approach the animal keep an eye on it to see if it moves off, what its injuries are, and where it moves to.
- Please wait until the Police, Forest Ranger or Deer Warden arrives at the scene.
- When the Police, Forest Ranger or Deer Warden arrives please help them by doing what they ask.

Thank-you.

PLEASE KEEP THIS IN YOUR VEHICLE!