



# R B F & R S

## news release

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### **Firefighters And Council Drive Home Drink Driving Message**

Slough firefighters and Slough Borough Council's Drugs and Alcohol Team (DAAT) will be staging a hard-hitting road traffic collision demonstration on Friday 7 December at 2.45pm in B&Q's car park, Bath Road Retail Park, Slough. The aim of the event is to emphasise the potentially serious consequences of driving under the influence and to make people think twice about getting behind the wheel after drinking or taking drugs.

Using a live 'casualty' in a simulated car crash, firefighters will demonstrate how they go about rescuing people from the wreckage of their vehicles. The DAAT will be handing out information about drugs and alcohol, 'spikeys' – devices that can detect if your drink has been spiked – and alcohol-free cocktails and recipes.

Julie Isaacs, Community Safety Co-ordinator at Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "One of our priorities is to reduce the number of road traffic collisions (RTCs) on Berkshire's roads. Firefighters see far too many RTCs, all too often as the result of people drinking or taking drugs. We hope that lots of people will come and watch the demonstration on Friday and take away information from it that could potentially save lives."

Jatinder Matharu, DAAT Programmes Co-ordinator, said: "Driving after drinking alcohol can seriously impair your judgement and sight. Drugs can affect your mind and body in a variety of ways that mean you aren't able to drive safely. Not only that, the effects can last for hours or even days. As well as information about drink and drugs, we will be giving away alcohol-free cocktails at the event to prove that not drinking doesn't have to be boring!"

**ENDS**

#### **Note to Editors:**

You are welcome to send a reporter/photographer to the event. Please contact Ellie Gray in advance to confirm.