

Be better road users

The provincial Department of Transport and Public Works is calling on all road users to take personal responsibility for their behaviour on the roads for the safety of everyone.

Through its #BeTheChange initiative, the department says the users must be the change they want to see on the provincial roads.

“All road users are responsible for their own safety and the safety of every other road user,” says acting department director of Traffic Law Enforcement Vigie Chetty.

She says road users can effect change by not drinking and driving, by buckling up at all times, by not using cellphones while driving, by driving and walking carefully and considerately, and by always remaining within the speed limit.

“Everyone can set an example of safe pedestrian, passenger and driver behaviour. Many road users, especially children, learn from the examples they see and practicing unsafe pedestrian

behaviour like jaywalking or walking on freeways, will be seen and replicated,” says Chetty.

“Model good road safety behaviour and encourage others to learn the same road safety habits and to be responsible road users.

If you are a motorist, consider how your actions could save a life. Choose to slow down, especially at night around pedestrian hotspots, so that you have more time to react if a pedestrian unexpectedly crosses the road.”

Chetty also encouraged drivers to make sure that everyone is wearing a seat belt, and that young children are kept safe in an appropriate child restraint before the vehicle moves.

“It only takes a second to buckle up and save a life,” she says.

“It’s up to you to make the difference. #BeTheChange you want to see on our roads.”

For more information see safely-home.westerncape.gov.za.