



Safety Alert

Alcohol hand sanitiser vehicle fires

25 June 2020

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by:

NHS



Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Safety Quick Share

Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitiser – Vehicle Fires

This quick share is to alert all colleagues to the potential fire risk in vehicles, caused by alcohol-based hand sanitiser. We have received a number of reports of hand sanitiser being the cause of fires when left in vehicles in the hot weather the UK is currently experiencing.

The alcohol hand sanitiser is becoming heated resulting in flammable vapours being released. These vapours are reaching their 'flashpoint' and then ignite in normal air conditions, setting fire to flammable components within the car.



This picture shows damage to a car as result of hand sanitiser fire

Product Details

All alcohol-based hand sanitiser products

What you need to do

Remove all alcohol-based hand sanitiser products from vehicles when they are not occupied, do not leave hand sanitiser in un-attended vehicles.



You should continue to use hand sanitiser as part of your hygiene routine where you cannot use soap & water.

Remember: hand hygiene is one of the most effective methods to stop the spread of COVID-19 following indirect contact (picking up the virus up by touching contaminated surfaces and objects).

For more information, please speak to your Regional Health and Safety Specialist.

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