

## **CORNWALL COUNCIL** SAFETY ALERT NOTICE

Alcohol-based hand sanitisers in vehicles **CONCERN** -

**HEALTH AND SAFETY TEAM ISSUED BY** 

> DATE 04/06/2020

## **ALERT FOR ALL EMPLOYEES**

The Council has been alerted to the potential of a fire risk in vehicles, caused by alcohol-based hand sanitisers. We have been alerted to a few reports of alcohol-based hand sanitisers being the cause of fires when left in vehicles, particularly during the recent period of hot weather.

## Concern

The alcohol-based hand sanitiser could become heated resulting in flammable vapours being released. These vapours could then reach their 'flashpoint' and find an ignition source, setting fire to flammable components within the car.

	Out	tside	temp	(in °C)			
		21	24	27	29	32	35
	Temperature inside closed car						
	0	21	24	27	29	32	35
	10	32	34	37	40	43	46
ᆽ	20	37	40	43	46	48	51
0	30	40	43	46	48	51	54
	40	42	45	48	51	53	56
	50	44	47	49	52	55	58
	60	45	48	51	53	56	59
	More than an hour						
		46	49	52	54	57	60

## What you need to do:

- Do not leave hand sanitiser in hot un-attended vehicles
- Do not carry large quantities of hand sanitiser in vehicles
- Remove all alcohol-based hand sanitiser products from vehicles when they are not occupied
- You should continue to use hand sanitiser as part of your hygiene routine where hand washing facilities with soap and water are not readily available
- Remember: hand hygiene is one the most effective methods to stop the spread of COVID-19