

# Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Dorset County Council**



Date of Meeting	5 July 2018
Officer	Michael Potter, Collision Reduction Team Leader
Subject of Report	<b>Causes and forces of road traffic collisions – Road Safety Plan</b>
Executive Summary	Reducing the harm caused by road traffic collisions is a key priority for the County Council. Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested a review into the causes and forces of road traffic collisions in response to an increase in the number of people killed or seriously injured on road within the County Council area. The Committee agreed to establish a task and finish group comprising elected members and officers to investigate if there was anything new the County Council could influence to improve road safety. This report summarises the outcome of investigations and presents a new document outlining the work undertaken regarding road safety and future challenges.
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: Not applicable
	Use of Evidence: Stats 19 Road Traffic Collision Data – provided and validated by Dorset Police
	Budget: Not applicable
	Risk Assessment: Not applicable

	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p>Development of existing 'SAFE' performance indicator report to provide better understanding of measurable performance of highway related works potentially influencing road safety.</p> <p>Refresh existing Road Casualty Reduction Plan 2014 – 2020 with new document aimed at improving understanding of business as usual functions that aim to improve road safety and identifies new approaches and future challenges.</p>
	<p>Other Implications:</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
Recommendation	<p>The Safeguarding Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve the updated Road Safety Plan 2018</li> </ul>
Reason for Recommendation	<p>To continue the development of an Outcomes Based Accountability approach in better understanding of what the county council can do to influence performance.</p>
Appendices	<p>Appendix A – Copy of SAFE: 06 Population Indicator 06 – Number of people killed or seriously injured – March 2018</p> <p>Appendix B – Copy of Draft Road Safety Plan 2018</p> <p>Appendix C – Copy of Dorset Road Safe Partnership Strategy 2017 – 2020</p>
Background Papers	<p>Causes and forces of road traffic collisions report to Safeguarding O&amp;S Committee – March 2017</p> <p>Scoping report – Task &amp; finish group for Road Traffic Collisions to Safeguarding O&amp;S Committee – July 2017</p>
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## 1. Background

- 1.1 In March 2017, Safeguarding Committee considered a report on the causes and forces of road traffic collisions. This report outlined the factors contributing towards the occurrence of collisions and the 'story' behind the population indicator 'number of people killed or seriously injured on Dorset's roads'.
- 1.2 Part of the county council's Outcome Framework for the 'Safe' outcome is for there to be fewer accidental injuries and deaths – including those on Dorset's roads.
- 1.3 It was agreed at Safeguarding Committee on 15 March 2017 to establish a task and finish group comprising a lead member, lead officer(s) and a champion for outcome based accountability (OBA) to scrutinise road safety related interventions by the county council and its partners.

## 2. **Scope of task and finish group**

- 2.1 The scope of the task and finish group was to take a holistic review of existing interventions and work streams that aim to improve road safety. This will include work undertaken directly by the County Council and also its partners.

## 3. **Context**

- 3.1 Trends in the number of people killed or seriously injured on Dorset's road was an important topic of discussion for the task and finish group. It became apparent that no defining cause or force was identifiable from the available data (Stats 19 Road Traffic Collision Data) for either increasing or decreasing trends in the number of people killed or seriously injured.
- 3.2 As was outlined in a report to Safeguarding committee in March 2017, there are a wide variety of factors that can influence the occurrence and frequency of road traffic collisions, many of which are outside the direct control of the County Council.
- 3.3 Responsibility for improving road safety is shared by many authorities in Dorset, each having their own unique areas of influence. The County Council is an active member of the Dorset Road Safety Partnership, which includes:
- Dorset Police
  - Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue
  - Bournemouth Borough Council
  - The Borough of Poole
  - Safewise (charity)
- 3.4 The focus of the partnership is on education, engineering and enforcement. The partnership's strategic document describes the overarching approach and focus of the partnership. A copy of the partnership's strategic document can be found at Appendix C.
- 3.5 There are a number of functions undertaken as "business as usual" by the County Council that have the potential to improve road safety. The task and finish group felt that raising awareness of these functions was important, as well as exploring the challenges faced in improving road safety.

## 4. **Road Safety Plan 2018**

- 4.1 The task and finish group proposed refreshing the existing Road Casualty Reduction Plan with a document titled Road Safety Plan 2018.
- 4.2 The purpose of the refreshed Road Safety Plan is to compliment the Dorset Road Safe Partnership's Strategic document by providing an overview of the functions delivered by the County Council with regards to road safety. A copy of the plan can be found at Appendix B.
- 4.3 The Committee are invited to approve the Road Safety Plan or make recommendations for changes to be made.