

Regeneration and Local Services, Durham County Council

March 2020

Road Safety Strategy Executive Summary



Background information

- Our Road Safety Strategy, developed by the Department for Transport, has expired.
- Under the previous Strategy the Department for Transport gave us targets and provided some funding to work towards meeting these targets.
- Today the County Durham and Darlington Casualty Reduction Partnership brings together partners from the emergency services, Highways England, Darlington Borough Council and Durham County Council.
- The partnership aims to coordinate road safety interventions and deliver programmes that:
 - improve the safety of residents,
 - promote safer sustainable travel choices and
 - educate road users as riders, drivers, passengers and pedestrians.

Approach

- The new strategy aims to assist the partnership in delivering a better coordinated approach to road safety.
- We have an overall aim of reducing the severity and number of residents injured on our roads in County Durham and Darlington.
- The main aspect of the strategy is to ensure there is a better way for the partnership to deliver interventions and programmes that are:
 - based on casualty data,
 - recorded and evaluated against a delivery plan, and
 - actioned by the Casualty Reduction Partnership.
- There will be an overseeing group which will hold the partnership to account.
- For transparency annual performance and reports of activities will be available to all interested partners.

Delivery and evaluation

- Road casualty data is analysed every year to see how well the partnership is doing in delivering road safety programmes in reducing casualties and improving safety.
- A delivery plan details the actions that the partnership will take to improve safety, and this will be used to evaluate our performance.
- The delivery plan is broken down into addressing safety amongst the following groups:
 - Children
 - Older Road Users
 - Pedestrians
 - At Work Drivers
 - Young Drivers
 - Cyclists and Motorcyclists
 - Car drivers and passengers

This is in addition to the following risk taking behaviours that contribute to a number of more serious injuries which are speeding, mobile phone use, drink or drug driving and seatbelts and restraints.