

For Publication

**Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Authority
Service Delivery Policy and Challenge
Group
15 March 2018
Item No. 11**

REPORT AUTHOR: ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

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Background Papers (attached):

Strategic Road Safety Partnership Board Draft Terms of Reference
Joint Protective Services Road Safety and Casualty Reduction Strategy 2017-2022
Joint Protective Services Road Safety Strategy 2017-22 'Plan on a Page'

Implications (tick ✓):

LEGAL		FINANCIAL	
HUMAN RESOURCES		EQUALITY IMPACT	
ENVIRONMENTAL		POLICY	
CORPORATE RISK	Known	OTHER (please specify)	
	New	CORE BRIEF	

Any implications affecting this report are noted at the end of the report.

PURPOSE

To provide Members of the Service Delivery Policy and Challenge Group with an update on the progress of the Strategic Road Safety Partnership.

RECOMMENDATION

That Members of the Service Delivery Policy and Challenge Group consider the report provided.

1. Background

- 1.1 Historically, within Bedfordshire, multi-agency collaboration on road safety matters has been progressed by the Bedfordshire and Luton Casualty Reduction Partnership. This partnership was governed by a Steering Group to provide strategic direction and a Co-ordination Group to deliver the strategy. The Groups comprised officers from the local authorities, Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (BFRS), Bedfordshire Police and Highways Agency.
- 1.2 There was recognition amongst partners that strategic direction was in need of improvement and there were difficulties faced in the provision of accurate and timely data to support the targeting of road safety work.

2. Strategic Road Safety Partnership Board

- 2.1 Following informal discussions with partners around the effectiveness of the existing arrangements DCC Gary Forsyth (Bedfordshire Police) invited key stakeholders to an initial meeting held on 6 October 2017 at which it was agreed in principle to refocus partnership work by establishing a Strategic Road Safety Partnership Board, consistent with the Boards established in Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire.
- 2.2 DCC Forsyth highlighted that funding to support the work of the group may be available via the PCC Road Safety Fund. Draft terms of reference were considered and attendees were asked to seek support for the proposed new arrangements within their organisations.
- 2.3 A second meeting of the Board took place 14 January 2018. At this meeting the Joint Protective Services (Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Constabularies) draft Road Safety and Casualty Reduction Strategy 2017-2022 was presented. This sets out the Police strategy for combined and co-operative delivery with partners through the four key strands of:
 - Education
 - Engagement
 - Enforcement
 - Engineering
- 2.4 Police advised that JPS are employing a full-time analyst who will be in post April 2018 which will help ensure that data is more up to date to enable better planning and clearer tasking.
- 2.5 The Board recognised the need for strategic forward planning taking into account future planned growth and discussed means to influence getting safety included in business cases.
- 2.6 Police have tasked officers to produce a collaborative delivery plan for the strategy and to map the current road safety activity of all partners.

- 2.7 Highways England advised that they are reviewing the A421 and want to develop a route strategy with buy in from partners with a view to reducing casualties and deaths. They want to show all strategies investigated before putting in speed cameras. Highways England will lead on a strategy based on data.
- 2.8 Highways England also advised that they will be developing a regional suicide prevention strategy. Once all data is sense checked they will do site audits of locations, with representatives from all partners to bring their expertise. There will be a process to put in measures to reduce the suicide incidents.
- 2.9 Whilst it is still early days, the Board offers a significant opportunity for improvement in collaborative intelligence led delivery of road safety within Bedfordshire.

3. BFRS Road Safety Activity

- 3.1 BFRS has extremely strong ties to the local authorities and regularly works in collaboration to deliver road Safety initiatives. BFRS is principally involved in engagement and education activity around the risks and consequences of the main causes of road traffic collisions. Examples of activities include:

- Delivery of national 'calendar' campaigns and local campaigns
- Supporting a wide range of partner road safety activities
- Use of social media to engage and deliver messages
- Use of local radio to deliver safety messages
- A range of youth education programmes from pre-school through to sixth-form
- Desk top road safety simulator use at events
- Motorcyclist education - 'Bikerdown' and 'Biker Safe' delivery in collaboration with Police

4. Recommendation

That Members of the Service Delivery Policy and Challenge Group consider the report provided.

IAN EVANS
ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER