



<b>To:</b>	The Police & Crime Panel for Sussex
<b>From:</b>	The Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex
<b>Subject:</b>	Road Safety Report
<b>Date:</b>	9 October 2015
<b>Recommendations:</b>	That the Police and Crime Panel note and comment on the content of the report

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This report sets out how the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner scrutinises, supports and challenges Sussex Police in respect of performance around road safety.
- 1.2 The report explains how this scrutiny is carried out through Performance & Accountability Meetings (PAMs), Sussex Safer Roads Partnership (SSRP), Safer in Sussex Community Fund, Public Engagement and Correspondence to the Office of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner (OSPCC).

## **2.0 Killed and Seriously Injured Performance**

- 2.1 The number of individuals killed and seriously injured (KSI) on the roads of Sussex reduced by 12% from 2005 to 2012. However, increased numbers of KSIs across 2013/2014 (+17%) and 2014/2015 (+1%) have replaced this long-term reducing trend. This rise in KSIs can be attributed to increases in the number of collisions involving drivers and riders (+20%) in the vehicle types: pedal cycles (+45%), cars (+16%) and motorcycles (+9%). The latest KSI performance figures are included as an Appendix to this report.

## **3.0 Performance & Accountability Meetings**

- 3.1 The Commissioner has challenged the Chief Constable regarding road safety and the performance of Sussex Police in this area at the following monthly PAMs:  
  
2013 – Theme at 2 meetings (18 October and 20 December)  
2014 – Theme at 5 meetings (17 January, 25 July and 19 December)  
2015 – Theme at 4 meetings (16 January, 20 February, 26 June and 31 July)
- 3.2 This challenge has been made under a number of different themes, including Killed and Seriously Injured, Safer Sussex Roads Partnership, Christmas/Summer Drink Drive Campaign, 20mph Enforcement and Operation Crackdown. The webcasts from the previous PAMs can be viewed on the OSPCC website. The minutes of the above meetings are included as an Appendix to this report.

## **4.0 Sussex Safer Roads Partnership**

- 4.1 The SSRP is the primary group which directs road safety activity throughout Sussex. The vision of the SSRP is to “create a safer environment for all road users, significantly reduce life changing injuries and eliminate fatalities”.

- 4.2 SSRP membership consists of Brighton & Hove City Council, East Sussex County Council, West Sussex County Council, The Highways Agency, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service and Sussex Police. The "Road Safety Strategy 2014–2030" for the SSRP is included as an Appendix to this report.
- 4.3 The Commissioner is a member of the SSRP Board of Directors since March 2015. In her role, the Commissioner challenges, supports and informs the work being carried out through the SSRP to tackle and prevent the main causes of serious injuries and deaths on the county's roads. More recently the Commissioner has proposed a more effective mechanism for the allocation of funding by the SSRP.
- 4.4 A recent Internal Audit carried out by West Sussex County Council in August 2015 confirmed that "satisfactory assurance" can be placed on the effectiveness of the overall control environment of the SSRP. The Commissioner has also sought better information for the public on how the SSRP determines how road safety improvements are decided on and prioritised.

## **5.0 Safer in Sussex Community Fund**

- 5.1 The Commissioner has allocated £24,090 from the Safer in Sussex Community Fund (now known as the Community Safety fund) to support local projects which aim to improve community safety through road safety initiatives (including Community Speed Watch schemes).
- 5.2 The Commissioner has transferred this money directly to the SSRP for them to disseminate according to priority and need and to monitor progress.

## **6.0 Public Engagement & Correspondence to the OSPCC**

- 6.1 The Commissioner regularly attends Parish, Town and District Council meetings throughout the county and understands the importance that the residents of Sussex place on road safety. The Commissioner recognises that safer roads and communities can be created by working together and sharing the roads responsibly and this remains a priority in her Police & Crime Plan.
- 6.2 Approximately 10% of all the correspondence received by the OSPCC relates to road safety. The Commissioner recognises the importance of deploying resources to locations where they will have the most impact and generate casualty reduction outcomes and encourages individuals and communities with specific road safety concerns in their local areas to report these to the SSRP and Operation Crackdown. This enables intelligence regarding repeat offenders, vehicles, times and locations to be developed which can be used to plan, target and deploy police resources.

## **7.0 Conclusion**

- 7.1 Road safety remains an important priority for the Commissioner and is embedded in the Police & Crime Plan. The aim to reduce the number of KSIs is also a fundamental element of the Chief Constable's Operational Delivery Plan.
- 7.2 Sussex Police will continue to work alongside a range of partners delivering programmes of enforcement, education and engineering to positively affect and influence driver behaviour. The Commissioner will closely monitor the progress of Sussex Police in this important area.

**Recommended** – that the Police & Crime Panel note and comment on the content of the Report.

**Mark Streater**  
**Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer,**  
**Office of Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex**

**Appendices:**

- A. Sussex Police – Killed and Seriously Injured Performance
- B. Performance & Accountability Minutes – Road Safety
- C. Sussex Safer Roads Partnership – Road Safety Strategy 2014–2030