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KILDARE

ROAD SAFETY NEWS

Bi Annual Newsletter: 01 Jan '17 to 30 Jun '17



EDUCATE



ENGINEER



ENFORCE

Hello and welcome,

This newsletter, '**Kildare Road Safety News**', provides the reader with an insight into some of the road safety promotion, awareness and educational activities undertaken this year so far, from January 1st to June 30th 2017.

The newsletter is split into three sections, Education, Engineering and Enforcement. These are known as the 'Three 'E's of road safety.

Throughout the magazine you will see just a sample of the many promotional activities which are carried out by the road safety officer on behalf of Kildare County Council, and the network of resources and stakeholders which assist in this work.

Official figures from the Garda National Roads Policing Bureau, based at Dublin Castle has revealed that, as of 30th June 2017, a total of 77 people died on Irelands roads as a result of 72 collisions. This figure is a reduction of 11 deaths in the same period last year.

While the figures are going in the right direction, all stakeholders still need to continue road safety promotion, enforcement and policing to maintain figures in the downward trend. That said, it is the responsibility of each road user themselves to also play their part in keeping our roads safe and the numbers of road deaths and injuries down. It is everyone's responsibility to be safe, sober, competent and alert while using the roads.

Going forward for the next six months, Kildare County Council will continue to promote road safety awareness at schools, in the community and with other stakeholders.

I hope you enjoy this Bi-Annual newsletter.

Kind Regards,
Declan Keogh,
Road Safety Officer,



KILDARE
COUNTY COUNCIL

Heed Your Speed!



Always
Wear a Safety Belt



In a crash
your whole
world turns
upside down

Expect the Unexpected



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Post Primary school students from Pipers Hill College, Naas outside the Kildare Road Safety roadshow at their school

School Visits for the first half of 2017

The road safety officer visited 97 classrooms in the first six months of 2017 and delivered road safety education to a total of 3,030 students in primary and post-primary schools. Among the topics covered in primary school are; Safe cross code, Be Safe-Be Seen, Hi-Glo Silver, Seatbelt Sheriff & Cycle Safety.

In Post-Primary schools, the material delivered to second level students is more descriptive and hard hitting. The RSA programmes used are Streetwise, Your Road to Safety & Wrecked. Hazard perception, attitudes and behaviour and Understanding the road are also discussed.

Number of students who received road safety
Period: 1st Jan '17 to 30th June '17

Primary School Visits

Class	Numbers	Studen No's
1st Class	3	86
2nd Class	6	172
3rd Class	18	470
4th Class	16	416
5th Class	12	355
6th Class	12	329
	67	1828

Post Primary School Visits

Year	Numbers	Student No's
1st year	6	180
2nd year	1	30
3rd year	5	139
4th Year	13	704
5th Year	5	149
6th Year		
	30	1202

TOTAL NUMBER 3030



Above: School Warden & RSO demonstrating how to cross with the 'Lollipop Person'
Below: RSO appoints 'Seatbelt Sheriff's' at Churchtown National School



School Teacher and Supervisor of the Junior School Wardens retires

After serving 32 years as a school teacher at St. Conleth National School, Derrinturn and in her position as the supervisor of the schools Junior School Warden (JSW) scheme for over 20 years, Ms Sally Curley retired from Derrinturn National School on 22nd June.

Over the years as supervisor of the JSW, Mrs Curley has ensured the safe operation and provision of the junior warden scheme in conjunction with Kildare County Council. Under Sally's supervision, the Derrinturn wardens have won the

county warden finals on five occasions over many years.

Kildare County Council's Road Safety Officer would have worked closely with Mrs Curley over the past number of years to ensure the safe and appropriate operation of the scheme.

Speaking at the retirement function, Declan Keogh said "Mrs Curley was the Sergeant Major who kept the 30 junior wardens in line every year and aside from the training which is delivered by a Garda Junior Liaison Officer and

the council's Road Safety Officer, at the beginning of each school term, Sally's continued commitment and dedication to the JSW scheme was a vital cog in the wheel for the safety of school children and for the wardens themselves and added to the safety provided by the local adult School Warden, Moyra Gavin.

I wish Sally all the very best on her retirement and for the future and I thank her very much for the many years of dedicated service she had given to the junior wardens".



RSO Declan Keogh and local adult School Warden Moyra Gavin presents Sally Curley with bouquet of flowers and a gift.

Just One Life - Just One Chance

Kildare Rotary Club join road safety groups for hard hitting programme

Just One Life is a road safety programme which first began in Wexford with the local rotary Club and Wexford County Council. The programme demonstrates the common causes of collisions to students aged from 15-17 years old in a practical manner but also while using the 'shock' factor. Kildare Rotary President Barry Fitzsimons said 'This is a hard hitting, no holes-barred programme which will 'shock and awe' the students'.

The show was opened by Gerry Shinnors of Kildare Rotary who outlined to the students and teachers what the programme was about and what they were about to see. The first presenter was Kildare County Council's Road Safety Officer Declan Keogh who spoke about the dangers faced by young people while using the road, but not just as drivers, as a passenger, a cyclist or a pedestrian. He spoke about the heavy hand of peer pressure which is on the shoulders of so many young

people today and how easy it is for any person to just say 'No' or 'Stop', or 'Slow Down' to that foolish driver who may very well be that person best mate.

Paul O' Dwyer, Sub-Sub Officer at Kildare Fire Service based in Naas was the second speaker who gave a graphic insight into what fire-fighters and ambulance paramedics are faced with when they arrive on the scene of a collision. He described what goes through their minds as they travel to the



Naas Sub Officer Paul O' Dwyer, Kildare Fire Service; Garda Liam Holohan and Garda Turlogh McMahon, Naas with Rotary Club members and students at Just One Life

Photo: Tony Keane



Kildare County Council Road Safety Officer Declan Keogh with Naas Rotary Club members and students at Just One Life Photo: Tony Keane

scene, what they have to do at the scene and how they work together to try and release, remove or recover a person or body from a crumpled wreck as a result if a needless crash. In most cases he said, people have died, lives are lost and all for what?

An Garda Siochana deliver a road safety programme to Transition Year and Leaving Cert Applied students in second level schools. The programme, 'It won't happen to me' is a national one and involves many aspects of road safety including collision data, collision types, injuries sustained and offences committed. The programme is hard hitting and informative. Gardai who delivered the programme are attached to the Naas District Garda Traffic Corps.

After a crash, a person will either survive or die,

and if a person survives, they may be injured; some minor, others, many others in fact, suffer serious injuries. In the words of A&E Consultant Dr. George Little 'If you wake up and you see me staring down at you, you're in a bad place, you're in good hands, but in a bad place, you're in my office'.

Dr. George Little has been delivering road safety talks with the road safety officer to students in county Kildare for almost 10 years. Shows like the Kildare County Council & AXA Roadshows in Geoffs and the Keadeen Hotel, the SaferRoads seminar in Punchestown and the during NUI Maynooth road safety week have proven to be very powerful and informative to the audiences.

Dr. Little delivers a very graphic, descriptive and,

sometimes, humorous talk to second level students. He uses a skeleton during his talks and outlines what happens the various bones and the body in different crashes.

Gerry Shinnors of Kildare Rotary says "The Just One Life Programme emphasises the stark realities and often-tragic results of inappropriate driving behaviours. Students are told that most of them will be involved in a serious accident at some stage in their lives, that they may kill or be killed while in a vehicle on the roads"

"It provides much needed food-for-thought for these drivers of the future, and seeks to influence the choices they will make as young drivers, in the age group accepted as being most at risk of having a serious traffic collision."

'Road Safety Village' and Collision demonstration attracts huge crowds at the Kildare County Show in Athy

Over 2,000 people passed through the Road Safety Authority's Shuttle at the 'village'.

The Kildare County Show was attended by almost 10,000 people. This annual event is a huge attraction for many people not just from Athy but from the wider Kildare area. Each year there is a focus on road safety and every third year, Kildare Road Safety delivers a large road safety exhibition and demonstration in conjunction with the local gardai and emergency services.

Three School Wardens joined the road safety promotions team this year and provided resources for the people, who visited the 'Road Safety Village' at the event. The Road Safety promotions team provided high visibility vests, armbands, bicycle light bands and the new kiddies 'SnapWraps' which proved very popular with younger kids.

The Road Safety Officer provided road safety information to the public and answered any queries they presented.

The promotions Team and Community Garda were also busy with the Brake reaction tester, Impaired Goggles and the Beer Goggles game.





This year, we were delighted to be joined by the Road Safety Authority who brought their new Interactive Shuttle to the show. This proved a big attraction to the visitors and it complimented the road safety village area. The RSA shuttle allows visitors to practice their driving and hazard perception skills on the vehicle simulators.

There are also 3D virtual reality pods on the shuttle which will allow people to experience first-hand the dangers of driving and texting and driver fatigue.

Visitors also got to practice safe cycling skills on a state of the art bicycle simulator plus much more. Young children were

also busy testing their fancy footwork while dancing to the Safe Cross Code in the activity zone.

This is the first year we had the RSA shuttle in attendance at the 'village' and we are hoping that it will be an annual each year along with the RSA Roll-over car too.

Two audience volunteers test their skills using the 'Impairment Goggles' while being observed by Community Garda and Road Safety Officer.



Ambulance Paramedic: *'Hopefully this is as close as these people get to a serious collision on the road'*

As with previous year, Kildare Road Safety coordinated a Road Traffic Collision (RTC) demonstration which was delivered at 2.30pm in conjunction with Kildare Fire Service, the National Ambulance Service and Kildare Gardai.

There were three 'casualties;' who made up the scenario of a young male driver, a passenger and a cyclist. The cyclist was knocked down while

the front seat passenger was thrown from the car through the windscreen as he wasn't wearing his seatbelt. The driver suffered minor injuries and was removed from the car by Athy Fire Service.

The RTC demonstration was coordinated by Declan Keogh who also interviewed the Incident Commander, Station Officer Ben Woodhouse, Ambulance Paramedic Nigel Kelly and Community Garda

Sean O' Mahoney during the course of the demonstration.

Four road safety related videos were also broadcast on the big screen at the event which also provided the audience with a further insight into how collisions are caused and what the consequences might be.

Photos: Check out Kildare Road Safety facebook page for more photos from the show





Above: Paramedics and firefighters from Athy with RSO following RTC demonstration
Below L: RSA Promotions Team with Kildare's Road Safety Promoters at RSA shuttle





Community Road Safety

Kildare County Council attended the Junefest in Newbridge for its third year. The Road Safety Officer was present in the town with the road safety promotions unit and on Sunday, he joined the gardai in Newbridge for their annual Open Day.

The road safety promotions unit was a very busy area for the duration of the day. The RSO issued all types of road safety material, information and merchandise. Local gardai also assisted at the road safety unit and between both the RSO and the Gardai, young children and teenagers were provided with valuable road safety information.



Civil Defence Officer Patricia McNeela and Newbridge Gardai.



Kildare Garda Rachel Lonergan with junior 'gardai' in Newbridge.

Cyclist & Pedestrian Safety at TriAthy

TriAthy has been in Athy for eleven years and for the past number of year, Kildare Road Safety has attended. Two main aspects of road safety at TriAthy are Pedestrian Safety and Cycle Safety.

The road safety promotions unit was set up at Emily square in the town which attracted large crowds for the duration of the event.

Kildare Gardai and local celebrities assisted at the unit and helped deliver road safety information and merchandise we to the public from the square.



Naas Garda Louise Fleming with Athy Gardaí Yvonne Duffy & Sean O' Mahoney helping us to promote road safety at TriAthy

Prior to road safety promotions on the day of the event, the Road Safety Officer is also a member of the TriAthy Pre-Planning committee who meet several times during the year in preparation for the event. Other Kildare County Council officials who sit on the committee are Athy Municipal District Engineer Dave O' Flaherty, Civil Defence Officer Patricia McNeela, Civil Defence Commander Jim Byrne, Garda Sergeant Jim Bergin and Sports Facilitator Syl Merrins.

Pedestrian and vehicular safety are paramount throughout the event and with road closures and restrictions in place, it is essential that event management have sufficient stewards and personnel for crowd control, traffic management and diversion routes.



Enclosed area for cycling participants at Emily Square



Gardaí and stewards provide assistance at road closures

A Laois family lend their support to our road safety awareness day at Junction 14 with Kildare Garda Rachel Loneragan, Reserve Garda Moyra Gavin and Road Safety Officer Declan Keogh



Top Tips you can 'Bank On' ahead of a busy weekend at Junction 14

Kildare Road Safety and Kildare Gardaí joined the promotions team at Junction 14 in the lead-up to the May Bank Holiday weekend to highlight to customers at the busy M7 service station the risks and dangers associated with driver fatigue and to outline the consequences of speeding and the importance of wearing a seatbelt.

Driver fatigue was a big promoting factor for that weekend nationally and both the county council and the gardai used the opportunity to promote the road safety message to commuters using the M7 service station.



National Walk to School Week



Primary schools across the county participated in the National Walk to School Week which took place from Monday 15th to Friday 19th May. This initiative was part of the An Taisce Green Schools' programme which resulted in hundreds of students in county Kildare and indeed, thousands across Ireland along with their parents and teachers walking to and from school. By doing so, collectively they helped to promote a healthier lifestyle, the environment, thus also resulting in better social and financial benefits of active travel on the school journey.

This is the ninth year Green-Schools held its National Walk to School Week. The 101 primary schools in Kildare joined the 1,900 schools nationwide in the campaign. Last year over 35,000 students, in schools registered with Green-Schools, walked all or part of the way to school.



On your Bike, but do it Right!



Minister for Transport Shane Ross TD launches new national Cycle Skills Programme

Kildare County Council has sponsored eighteen schools to receive the Cycle Skills Programme for the past ten years or so and this year, this programme, and many others alike have been streamlined into a one-service module undertaken by the Department of Transport and the Road Safety Authority.

Cycle Right is a national programme aimed at training people on how to manage a bicycle and cycle safely.

Cycle Right is the National Standard for Cycle Training and provides practical cycle safety and skills training to promote competent and confident cyclists. Cycle Right is an inclusive programme.

The programme is produced and supported by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, the Road Safety Authority and Cycling Ireland, with input from local authority Road Safety Officers and An Garda Síochána.

Cycle Right is a cyclist training programme designed to give cyclists the knowledge and skills to move safely through the road system, an environment shared with other road users.

The national programme is delivered over three stages with participants gaining skills and knowledge on a phased basis which prepares the individual to cycle in increasingly complex road scenarios. Ideally, individual

sessions in each stage should be delivered at weekly intervals to allow sufficient time for practice in between.

As participants move through the stages of training, they take greater levels of responsibility for themselves on their bike on the road.

The Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, Shane Ross T.D. announced funding for Cycle Right. The Minister said "I am delighted to announce that my Department is funding the national roll-out of Cycle Right to primary schools for 2017. This new standard, that includes an on-road element of training, will ensure that we have, for the first time, a standardised level of cycle training around the country."

Cycle Forum established in Kildare

Kildare County Council has established the Kildare Cycle Forum, the purpose of which is to support the development of cycling infrastructure within the County, promote recreational cycling and encourage commuters to adopt cycling. The Cycle Forum will provide a forum for professional and advocacy groups to input into ongoing policy and the practical development of sustainable transport solutions in Kildare.



Cyclists participating in this years TriATHy on the Carlow road, Athy

The Forum will be chaired by Councillor Darren Scully, Chairperson of the Council's Strategic Policy Committee on Transportation, Safety and Emergency Services, with an elected representative from each of the five Municipal Districts.

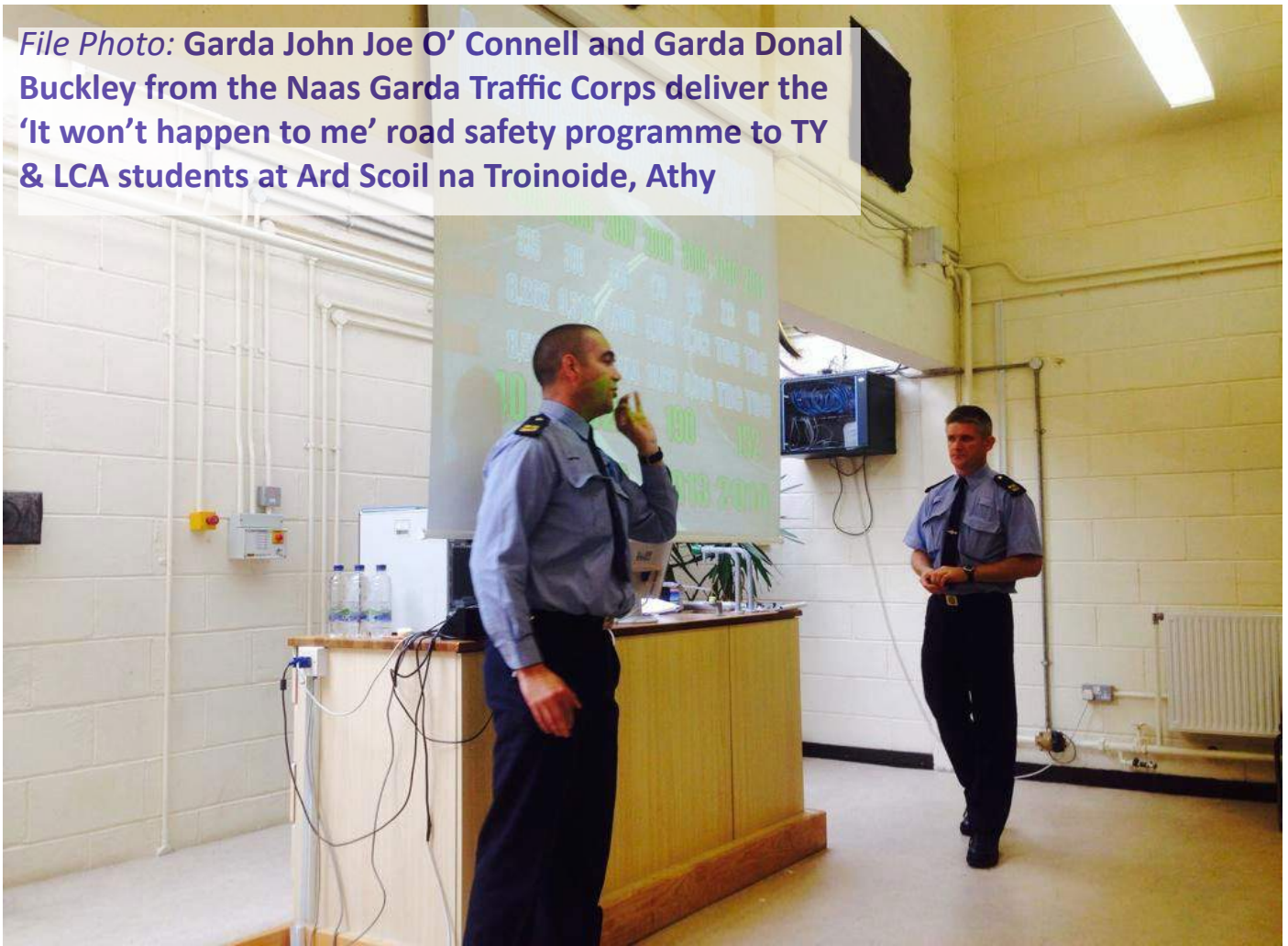
The Council's Road Safety Officer, a member of An Garda Síochána, Cycle Rite, the Kildare Sports Partnership and other

cycling organisations are also members of the forum. As a sub-Committee of the SPC, the Forum will convene four times per year.

Welcoming establishment of the Forum, Declan Keogh stated that 'the Forum will support and advocate the development of cycling projects within Kildare, promote cycling programmes and activities, while also providing a

platform for professional and advocacy groups to input into future policies on sustainable transport.' Cycling and walking are two key elements of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023, with the aim of promoting ease of movement within the County, improvements to existing cycle and pedestrian facilities, and facilitating the development of new cycleways.

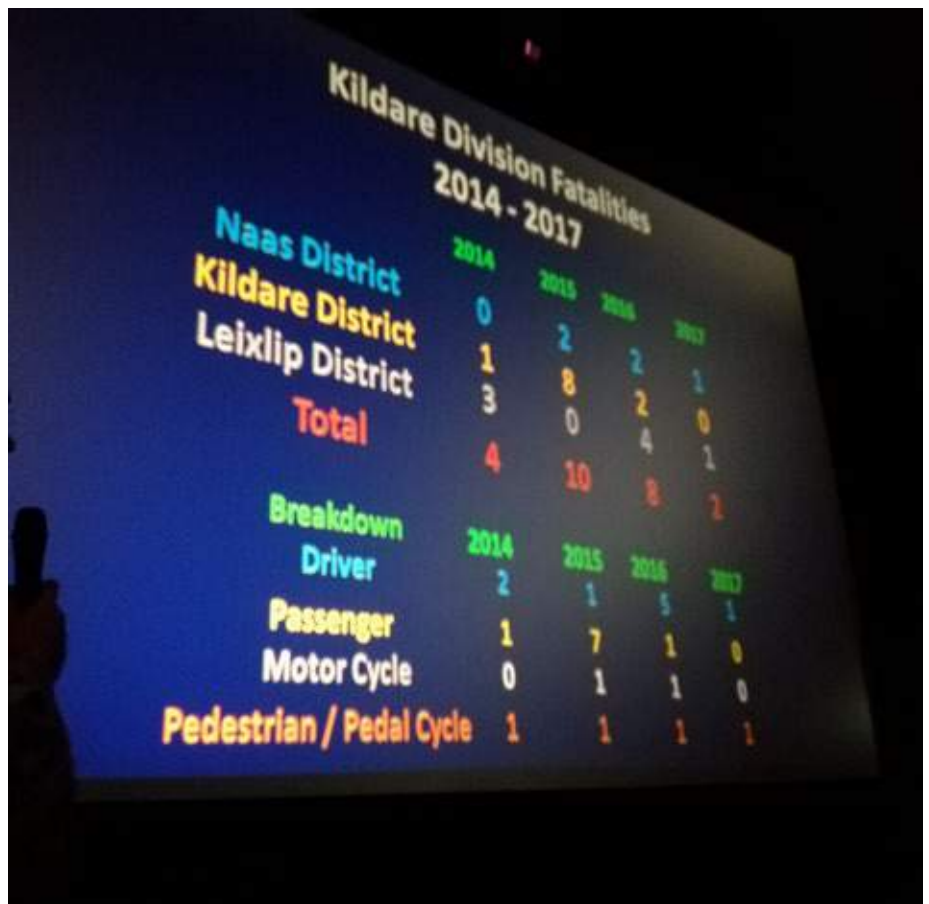
File Photo: Garda John Joe O' Connell and Garda Donal Buckley from the Naas Garda Traffic Corps deliver the 'It won't happen to me' road safety programme to TY & LCA students at Ard Scoil na Troinoide, Athy



Think it won't ever happen to you?

Gardaí from the Kildare Garda Division deliver the garda's road safety programme 'It won't happen to me'. The programme which is geared towards Transition Year (TY) and Leaving Cert Applied (LCA) students covers topics such as attitudes and behaviour, hazard perception, preparing for driver tests and training, understanding the road, motivation and attitudes and peer pressure.

Many gardaí in the Kildare Division are trained on delivering this programme, which also included a number of hard hitting road safety videos throughout.



The Writings on the Wall!

Students mark-up the FRTC Stats



Top Tips you can bank on, for a safer journey!

Check your Tyres

Know your vehicles correct type thread depth
Know your vehicles correct tyre pressure
Cars/Vans: = 1.6mm. Motorcycles = 1mm



Lights and Reflectors

Check ALL lights regularly and ensure all are working
Ensure headlamps are adjusted correctly
Indicators & reflectors are just as Important
Consider carrying spare light bulbs

Seat Belts

ALWAYS Wear your Seat Belt
Ensure Passengers in you vehicle are wearing theirs
Ensure seat belts are properly adjusted

REMEMBER: Seat Belts Save Lives!



Speed Limits

Speed limits are NOT targets
Observe speed limit area as you enter them
Obey Speed Limits



Cyclists and Pedestrians

Always wear high-visibility clothing while walking or cycling

NEVER Take a Lift from someone who is unfit to drive
NEVER Use Mobile Phones While Driving
NEVER overload a vehicle with passengers
Always drive with care, courtesy and consideration



NEVER EVER DRINK & DRIVE!

Kildare Road Safety

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Students and teacher Mary Kay are joined at the new Pedestrian Crossing outside Castledermot National School by Kildare County Council's Road Safety Officer Declan Keogh, School Warden Jennifer McDonald and council engineers Dave O' Flaherty, David Hutchinson and Morgan O' Flaherty of the Athy Municipal District.

Athy MD Area installs new Pedestrian Lights outside Castledermot National School

Students at Scoil Diarmada, Castledermot got to test the new crossing and lights outside their school recently when engineers at Kildare County Council's Athy Municipal District Area officially turned on the new lights.

There are 318 primary school students at the school and almost half of them use the crossing each day. The crossing facilitates students and adults attending the school from the estates and roadways on the Athy road end of the school.

The new lights will assist school children primarily, to cross the road while other students will continue to cross at the school wardens crossing at Athy Gate which local 'Lollipop Lady', School Warden Jennifer McDonald.

This was a fitting occasion for the school as it was also the last official function of interaction between school Principal Brendan Dunne and Kildare County Council, as Mr. Dunne was retir-

ing from the school that week.

Every student attending the twelve classes were brought out to the crossing by their teachers and between the Road Safety Officer and School Warden, they were all taught how to use the crossing properly and safely.

Municipal District Engineer for the Athy Area, Dave O' Flaherty said "It's important that there is a safety mechanism in place for children at schools, but it is also very important, in fact, essential that these children know how to use the crossing, when to use it and when to cross".

School Principal Brendan Dunne thanked the engineers for installing the lights and thanked the council for all their work in Castledermot over the years, in particular the transition from the former school to the new one.

Engineering and road design are crucial elements for making roads safer



‘A team of engineers, technicians and road designers work on many road projects on an ongoing basis’

Road Safety is not just about promotion and awareness, there is also another factor of the council, the road engineering section, which ensures our roads are safe for road users.

The primary objective of the Transportation Department at Kildare County Council is to provide a well-maintained public road network, subject to financial and human resource availabilities.

County Kildare has approximately 2,528 km of public road infrastructure, which is made of motorways, national primary roads, national secondary roads, regional roads and local roads.

This extensive and heavily commuted road network requires the council to continue to invest heavily in road maintenance and improvement, on all categories of road in the county, over the coming years.

A team of engineers, technicians and road designers work on many road projects on an ongoing basis. These works may consist of general repairs to the road surface, surface dressing, drainage works, removal of obstructions and other similar works.

Getting off on the right foot! New footpath and road marking on R417 Athy





Works on new footpath and road linage and signage completed on R417 Carlow road, Athy

National Bike Week 10th - 18th June

Lots of events were organised in Kildare to coincide with Bike Week. On Sunday 18th, a BMX Pump Track Skills course was erected at the Kildare County Show in Athy which allowed young children and teenagers to test their skills and carry out various maneuvers on the bike.

The aim of Bike Week is to provide a fun learning experience on the bike to children of all ages. The week of events festival offers a good balance between the learning new skills awhile using a bicycle.

Kildare County Council and the Kildare Sports Partnership coordinated Bike Week events in Kildare.

Other events which took place during Bike Week were Cycle for Life which allows local businesses to cycle for 5km or 10km during their lunch break.

Several schools who already participate in the Cycle Skills Programme were also invited to hold a Cycle to School day.

Kildare Road Safety provided cycle bags, high visibility vests and armbands to cyclists throughout the county during Bike Week.





RSA Report confirms Child Car Seats are not being properly fitted

Parents of childrenPachild car seats were invited to have their child car seats checked to ascertain if the seat was in fact correctly fitted and safe. Three day long 'Check it Fits' roadshows were held in County Kildare in may.

The RSA's Check it Fits roadshow visited the county on three consecutive days in May and found that the numbers of car seats were not safely fitted and in some cases, not compatible.

Nationally, the RSA are looking to check 10,000 child car seats in 2017 and have teamed up with Toyota to help them achieve this target. Kildare Check

The RSA checked 192 child car seats over three days. The results are as follows:

Athy	42
Naas	72
Celbridge	78

The 'Check it Fits' roadshow will visit county Kildare again in October, at Monasterevin, Sallins and Leixlip. Last year 298 cars were checked over 7 location visits.

Munster, Ireland and Lions rugby legend, Toyota's brand ambassador and father of two Paul O'Connell launched the new three year partnership between Toyota Ireland and the Road Safety Authority to expand the RSA's free child car seat checking service, 'Check it Fits'.

This new partnership further builds on Toyota's 'Build for A Better World' brand vision which was announced in late 2016 with the aim of creating a meaningful difference

for families in Ireland by building a better, safer future for all. The RSA 'Check it Fits' Service provided a natural fit for this vision which will now see Toyota bring this life-saving service to its nationwide dealer network.

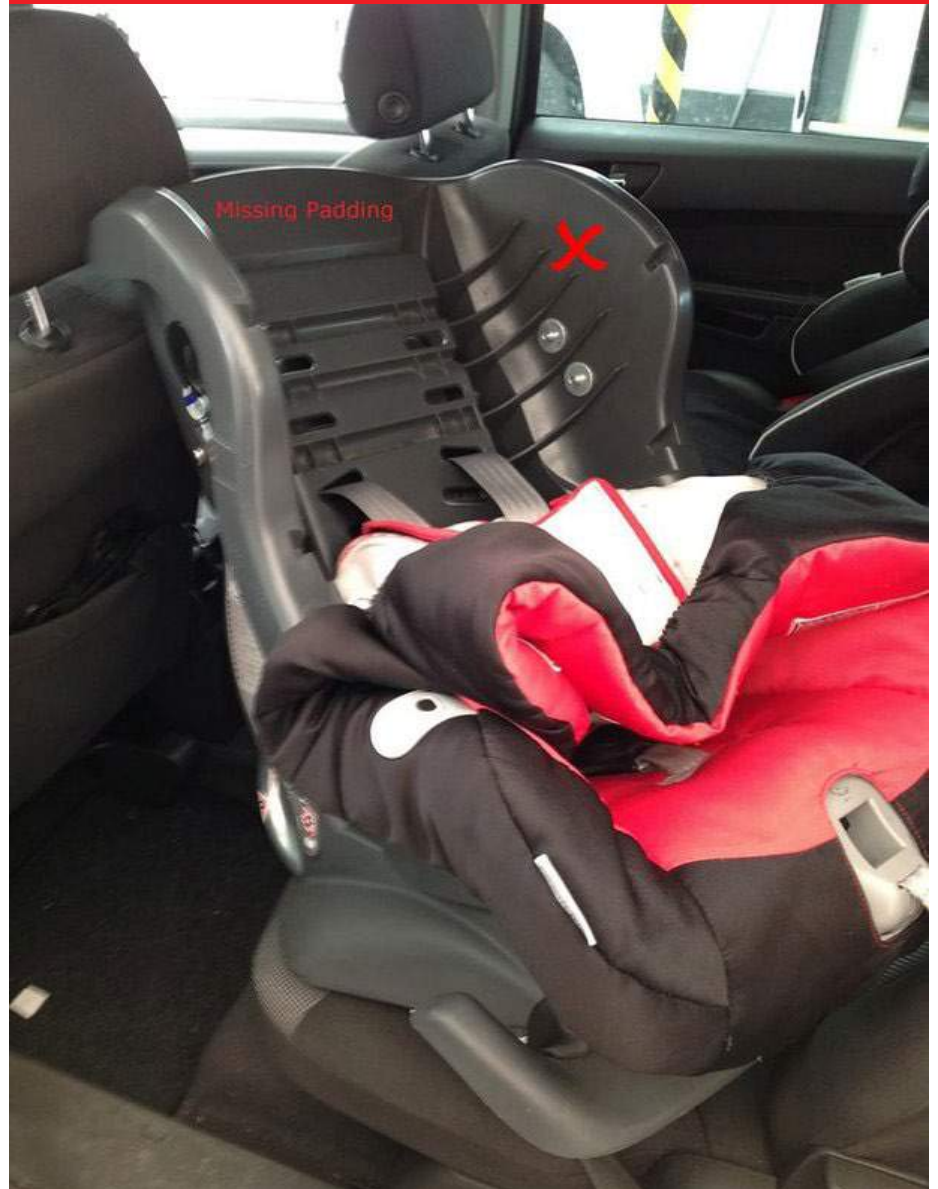
At 'Check it Fits', RSA experts will check child car seats and restraints for free at Toyota dealerships nationwide as well as many other locations across Ireland. The service offers parents and guardians reassurance that their child is safe while travelling in the car. Experts will fix any incorrectly fitted seats and restraints, show parents how to do it themselves and answer any queries they have. It only takes a few minutes, no appointment is necessary and it is open to all makes and models of cars and child car seats.

Toyota and the RSA's ultimate ambition is to check every single child car seat in Ireland and together are working hard towards reaching that goal. In the first year, the service aims to check 10,000 child car seats and will work to expand the service and increase this number over the next three years.

Speaking about the collaboration Moyagh Murdock, Chief Executive of the RSA, said: "Almost 2 out of 5 children killed on our roads are passengers and Garda reports into collisions indicate that 1 in 10 children were not wearing a seatbelt or using a child restraint in 2014. More recent statistics have shown an increase in child passenger fatalities on the road. The reality is that if a child's car seat isn't fitted correctly, it could lead to a serious or fatal injury in the event of a collision.

Thankfully, in most cases, the issues are easy to fix. That's why we are delighted to partner with Toyota on this important initiative which allows us to bring the service to a much wider audience with assured quality expertise on hand nationwide. This partnership will mean that we can check more child car seats and most importantly, save more children's lives."

RSA CEO:
'Almost 2 out of 5 children killed on our roads are passengers'



Future 'Check it Fits' in Kildare

- October 18th - Monasterevin
- October 19th - Sallins
- October 20th - Leixlip



Garda National Slow Down Day



Garda Derek Cloughley and students helping to promote Slow Down day

An Garda Síochána conducted an intensive national speed enforcement operation for a 24-hour period from 7am Friday, the 26th to 7am Saturday, the 27th May 2017. This national “Slow Down” day, is supported by the Road Safety Authority, Local Authority Road Safety Officers and other stakeholders.

The objective of operation “Slow Down” is to reduce the number of speed related collisions, save lives and reduce injuries on our roads. The aim is to get drivers to slow down by reminding them of the dangers of

speeding, increasing compliance with speed limits and acting as a deterrent to driving at excessive and inappropriate speed.

The operation will consist of Garda high visibility speed enforcement activities on national primary and secondary roads. All speed enforcement technologies will be utilised, including all laser handheld speed detection devices, Garda safety camera vans, in-car speed detection systems and GoSafe vehicles.

In terms of road safety there was a marked increase in road deaths in 2016.

Excessive and inappropriate speed is a major contributory factor in collisions. This was confirmed by a recent RSA report on fatal collisions between 2008 and 2012 which found that excessive speed was a contributory factor in one third of all fatal collisions during that time. The higher the speed, the greater the likelihood is of a collision happening and the more severe the outcome of that collision. As a general rule a 1% reduction in average speed will bring about a 4% reduction in fatal collisions, and this is why reducing motorists’ speed is essential to improving road safety.

'Thumbs Up' from County Kildare's emergency services for Garda National Slow Down Day

Members of the National Ambulance Service and Kildare Fire Service based in Athy lend a hand to promote national #SlowDown Day with Declan Keogh



Local Authority Road Safety Officers networking and sharing resources



Local Authority Road Safety Officers held their annual forum in Tullamore County Offaly on 8th February.

Among the topics discussed at the forum were national review of fatal road traffic collisions, adult school warden programme, Staying Alive at 1.5!, road safety budgets and a TechTalk on social media and online campaigns. The meeting was attended by each city and county road safety officer.

LARSO

Local Authority Road Safety Officers

Meet your local Road Safety Officer



KILDARE - LAOIS - DUBLIN - MEATH



WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY



GALWAY



MAYO

Meet your local Road Safety Officer

There is a Road Safety Officer (RSO) in each Local Authority. Our role is to promote road safety education & awareness and highlight the dangers many people are faced with while using the roads.

Many road safety officers attend schools and clubs to deliver talks and presentations and we also attend at local events and festivals.

If you, or a group you are involved in, would like to help promote road safety in your local area, contact your local RSO who can help with your campaign.



Contact the RSO at your local City or County Council offices



'Near miss' for Lollipop Lady

In April last, an incident occurred in Derrinturn, Carbury where a school warden had a 'near miss' with an oncoming car while children were being assisted across the road.

The incident occurred on the morning of Wednesday April 26 at the school warden crossing on the R403 which is the main Allenwood to Edenderry road in Derrinturn.

The driver failed to stop their vehicle for the school warden when instructed to do so. The warden was in the centre of the road at the time, about to let school children cross the road.

The vehicles make, model, registration and a description of the driver was provided to gardaí in Carbury who are investigating the matter. This is a very worrying incident, and motorists should to pay more attention at crossings and obey the instructions of a school warden.

Declan Keogh said "This is very worrying. The fact that a school warden had to manoeuvre out of the path of a vehicle which failed to stop is the first worry, but what is even more worrying is that there were a number of young children who were within seconds of being where the offending car passed through. It could

have ended in tragedy for the lollipop person and the innocent children and this should serve as a warning to all drivers of the consequences if they fail to stop when instructed to do so by a School Warden".

School Wardens are empowered under the Road Traffic Act 1961 to stop and hold traffic in order to allow school children to cross the road safely. A driver can receive up to four penalty points if convicted for disobeying them.

A driver cmay reisk receiving penalty points and a fixed charge fine for failing to stop for a School Warden.

About the School Warden

School Wardens are employed by the Local Authority to ensure the safe crossing of primary school children in the vicinity of schools. School Wardens are not obliged to assist second level students or adults to cross the road.

Even where a **School Warden** is provided, parents and guardians of children remain responsible for ensuring their children get to school safely, just as they would do at a zebra or pelican crossing.

Crossing with the School Warden

The School Warden (*Lollipop Person*) will instruct the children to wait on the pavement. The Stop sign is used as a barrier to prevent them from edging forward, until they are called across.

The Warden will then use the Stop sign to instruct traffic to stop.

The Warden may need to wait for a safe gap in the traffic.

DO NOT FOLLOW THE SCHOOL WARDEN ONTO THE ROAD.

When the traffic has stopped, the Warden will walk out to the centre of the road and when safe to do, will call you to cross. Please walk in front of the Warden so he or she can see you.

The Warden will remain in the centre of the road until all the children have crossed the road completely.

Advice for Drivers

When approaching a school you should reduce your speed and be prepared to stop, also be patient and considerate. School Wardens need to see and be seen! It can be difficult to see children on the pavement, especially if there are parked cars by the school.



Kildare Road Safety

Motorcyclist Safety Gear



77

ROAD FATALITIES UP TO 30 JUNE 2017

*Please note: data is provisional and subject to change.
This data is inclusive of 1st January to 30th June 2017.

3

KERRY



Note: All data for 2016 and 2017 is provisional and subject to change.



change.



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Where



2 killed in
30km/h zone



VRUs:

- 1 pedestrian



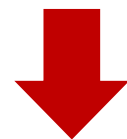
15 killed in
50km/h zone



- 1 motorcyclist
- 4 pedal cyclists
- 6 pedestrians



3 killed in
60km/h zone



- 1 pedestrian



Note: in 2017 there were 2 unknown speed zones at time of
Note: All data for 2016 and 2017 is provisional and subject to change



31 killed in
80km/h zone



- 5 motorcyclists
- 3 pedal cyclists
- 2 pedestrians



21 killed in
100km/h zone



- 2 pedal cyclists
- 6 pedestrians



3 killed in
120 km/h



- 1 pedal cyclist

of print
change.



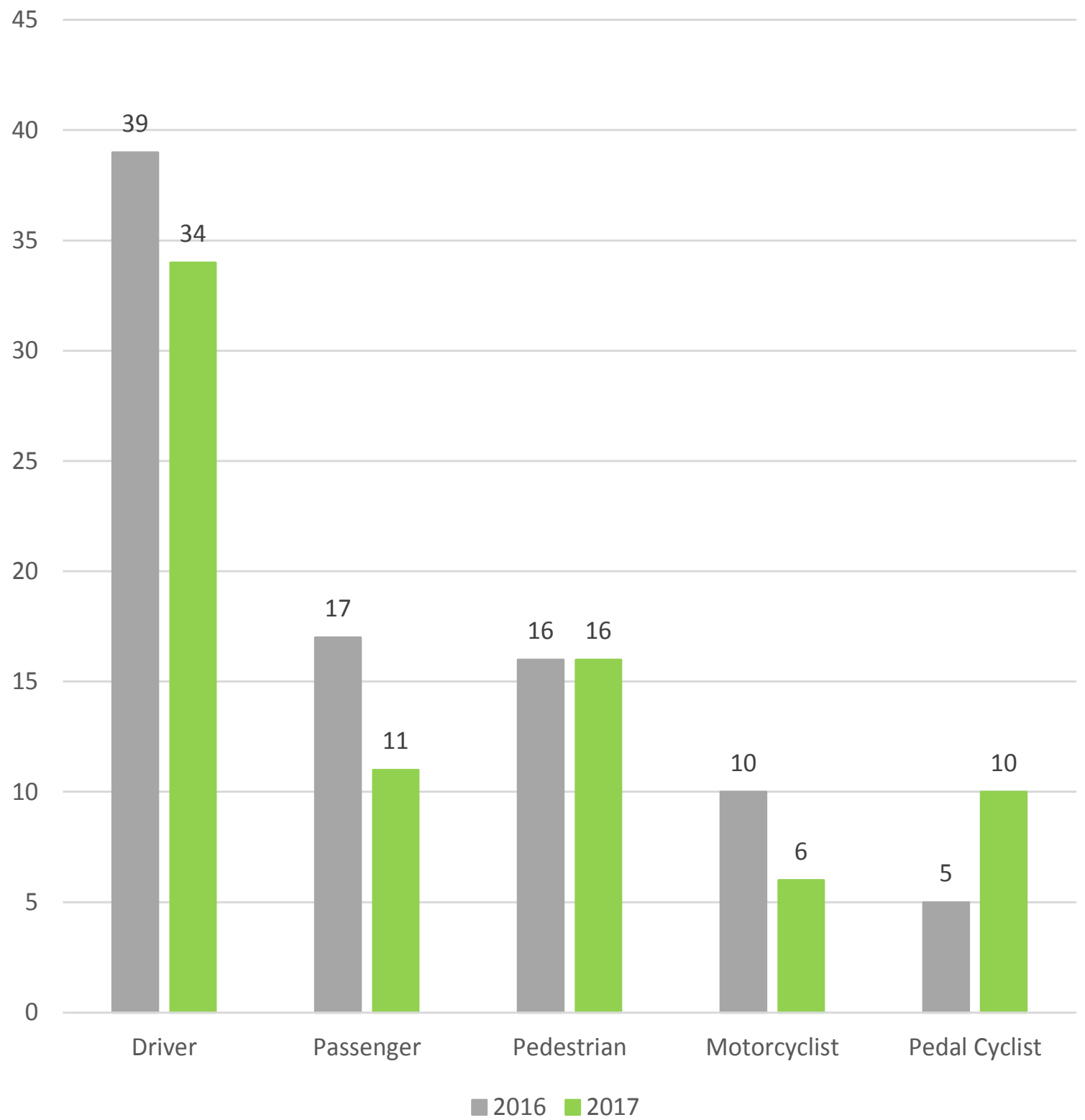
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Road User Type

- **Driver** and **passenger** fatalities represent almost three in every five fatalities **(58%)** in 2017
- However, fewer **driver** fatalities **(-5)** and **passenger** fatalities **(-6)**.
- Overall, compared to 2016, a net decrease in vehicle occupant fatalities from **56** in 2016 to **45** in 2017 **(-20%)**.
- A small **reduction** has been seen among **motorcyclists (-4)** but an **increase** among **cyclists (+5)**.



Note: All data for 2016 and 2017 is provisional and subject to



change.



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Road User Profile



Driver (N = 34)

29 males

9 aged 17-25 years

30 on higher speed
roads*

16 single vehicle

5 no seatbelt



Pedestrian (N = 16)

10 males

5 over 66 years

8 on higher speed
roads

7 in hours of darkness

1 had visibility gear on



*Note: Higher Speed Roads are those which are 80km/h and above
Note: All data for 2016 and 2017 is provisional and subject to audit



Motorcyclists (N=6)

5 males

5 were aged between
26-55

5 on higher speed
roads

4 single vehicle



Cyclists (N=10)

6 males

8 were aged
between 30 – 55
years

6 on higher speed
roads*

above.
to change.



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