

Report No.	19-130
Information Only - No Decision Required	

ROAD SAFETY UPDATE - 2018-19 YEAR REPORT

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. This report is to provide an update on road safety education activities undertaken throughout the region during the 2018-19 financial year.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 19-130 and Annex.

3. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 3.1. No financial impact as a result of this report.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 4.1. None required.

5. BACKGROUND

- 5.1. Horizons Regional Council employs 3 **Road Safety Coordinators (Coordinators)** to undertake road safety education activities across all the districts in the region.
- 5.2. The activities delivered are based on the funded issues set out by **NZ Transport Agency (NZTA)** each year.
- 5.3. For the 2018-19 financial year, the funded issues were:
- Intersections – Whanganui / Rangitikei / Manawatū / Tararua / Palmerston North / Horowhenua;
 - Alcohol and/or drugs – Palmerston North / Manawatū / Whanganui / Ruapehu / Tararua / Horowhenua;
 - Young/High Risk Drivers – Horowhenua / Palmerston North / Tararua / Whanganui / Ruapehu / Manawatū / Rangitikei;
 - Motorcyclists – Tararua;
 - Older Road Users – Palmerston North / Horowhenua / Manawatū / Tararua;
 - Distractions – Palmerston North / Whanganui;
 - Fatigue – Tararua / Rangitikei / Ruapehu / Manawatū;
 - Restraints – Palmerston North / Whanganui / Tararua / Manawatū;
 - Vulnerable Road Users – Cycling and Pedestrians - Palmerston North / Whanganui / Horowhenua / Rangitikei; and
 - Speed – Tararua / Ruapehu / Horowhenua.
- 5.4. The work the Coordinators undertake is directed by the **Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP)**, and provides the regional council's contribution to the national road safety strategy, *Safer Journeys 2020*. *Safer Journeys 2020* takes a safe system approach to road safety by working across all elements of the road system (safe roads and roadsides, safe speeds, safe vehicles and safe road use).

- 5.5. The Coordinators work closely with local district and city councils, ACC, Police and local community groups, to undertake road safety education and awareness activities addressing key issues which cause crashes in their areas. A report on their activities for the period 2018-19 year is attached as Annex A.

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1. In collaboration with stakeholders, Coordinators' delivered 41 programmes across the region during the 2018-19 financial year. Key areas of focus have been in the support of driver licencing for young and high risk drivers, compliance in the use of child restraints, drink driving, driver fatigue, distracted driving, and the delivery of driver refresher courses for senior drivers. A detailed report is provided in Annex A. The attached report outlines the depth and range of the year's road safety education programme.
- 6.2. Driver licence education has been a focus for the region with local community groups being funded through our External Community Road Safety Fund. In the 2018-19 Year, 8 providers received funding to deliver programmes to young and high risk drivers. The funding received is from NZTA, administered by the Coordinators, with a local provider contribution of 34%. Table 1 below shows the successful outcomes of these programmes.

Table 1: Driver Licence Programme Success Across the Manawatū-Whanganui Region

Licence Type	Learner	Restricted	Full	Success Rate
2018-19	2,216	42	16	98%
2017-18	2,178	55	40	98%
2016-17	1,794	38	19	95%

- 6.3. In total 2,320 persons across the region received licence support to which this funding contributed. Table 2 shows \$142,292.00 was directed to driver licensing programmes across the region in 2018-19. This contribution has been increased to \$155,590.00 for the 2019-20 financial year to provide further assistance to this important issue and increase coverage.

Table 2: Funding Provided to Driver Licence Programmes in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region

2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019	2019 -2020
\$112,127	\$142,292	\$155,590

7. ROAD SAFETY TRENDS AND STATISTICS IN THE HORIZONS' REGION

7.1. Road Deaths

Road safety crash data for the current year from 1 January to 11 August 2019 shows the number of deaths across our region is 13 from 11 crashes. At the same time last year there were 27 deaths from 22 crashes. This latest regional trend contrasts the national trend which has most regions tracking above or near last years' data. Table 3 below shows this year compares favourably with less than half of 2018 fatalities at the same time of year.

Table 3: Road Deaths Manawatū-Whanganui Region - year to date (1 January – 11 August)

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
20	23	11	22	27	13

7.2. Analysis of recent road deaths in the region show large decreases in the 0-15 and 60+ year groups. See Table 4 next page.

Table 4: Age Group Manawatū-Whanganui Region – year to date (1 January – 11 August)

Age Group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
0-15	-	3	-	2	7	2
16-29	4	2	-	3	1	-
20-24	1	2	3	3	2	2
25-39	6	6	3	5	4	2
40-59	4	6	4	6	3	4
60+	5	4	1	3	10	3

7.3. Road safety crash data by road type shows where these deaths are occurring on the region's roading network. See Table 5 below.

Table 5: Road Type Manawatū-Whanganui Region – year to date (1 January – 11 August)

Road Type	Urban/Open	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State Highway	Open Road	7	12	5	8	13	7
	Urban	3	2	-	2	-	3
Local Road	Open Road	6	7	6	9	9	3
	Urban	4	2	-	3	5	-

7.4. Road safety fatality crash data in our region indicates a significant decrease in passenger deaths in 2019 compared to the previous two years. See Table 6 below.

Table 6: Type of User Manawatū-Whanganui Region – year to date (1 January – 15 August)

Type of Road User	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Driver	10	12	8	11	10	8
Passenger	3	6	1	9	12	3
Motorcyclist	3	2	1	2	2	2
Pedestrian	3	2	1	-	2	-
Cyclist	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	1	-	-	1	-

7.5. Child Restraint Checking Clinics

In partnership with Police and Plunket, the child restraint programme continues to be delivered across the region. As a result of this intervention; 369 errors were corrected on the spot, 141 free anchor bolt installations, 28 locking clips and 10 harnesses were also provided. Additional to this programme, 20 donation seats were given.

7.6. Child restraints remain an ongoing concern across our region, refer to Table 7. Across all of the checking clinics, seventy-nine children had no child restraint used. Concern exists nationally for non-compliance of seatbelt use. We continue to provide messaging and education, focused on changing driver and passenger behaviours.

Table 7: Child Restraint Check Numbers Across Manawatū-Whanganui Region

	Number of seats checked	Number correct	Percentage correct
2018-2019	2,496	1,388	56%
2017-2018	1,764	1,007	57%
2016-2017	2,153	911	42%
2015-2016	1,990	1202	60%
2014-2015	2,385	1326	56%
2013-2014	1,642	618	38%

7.7. Senior Drivers – Older Road Users

While senior drivers are among the more safety conscious drivers on the road, the consequences of a crash are more severe for this age group. As our region's population ages and people are driving longer, we continue to focus on the 75+ year group with driver refresher courses. 384 senior drivers attended courses in 2018-19; including assistance with car set-up, road knowledge and rules, awareness of the effects of medication and alternative transport options. This figure does not include the many senior drivers engaged during presentations and expos with safety messages and education.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

- 8.1 This is not a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

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ANNEXES

- A Road Safety Activities Report 2018-19