

Report No. 19-190

Information Only - No Decision Required

## ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. This report is to provide an update on road safety trends in the region and advise members of road safety education activities undertaken by Horizons Road Safety Coordinators.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 19-190 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 three **Road Safety Coordinators (Coordinators)** to undertake road safety education activities across all districts in the Region. The activities delivered are based on funded priorities set out by the **NZ Transport Agency (NZTA)** each year.
- 5.2. For the 2019-20 financial year, the funded issues are:
  - Intersections;
  - Alcohol and/or drugs;
  - Young/High Risk Drivers;
  - Motorcyclists;
  - Older Road Users;
  - Distractions;
  - Fatigue;
  - Restraints;
  - Vulnerable Road Users – Cycling and Pedestrians; and
  - Speed.
- 5.3. The work Coordinators undertake is required by the **Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP)** and gives effect to the Government Policy Statement. The Coordinators' work also contributes to the national road safety strategy, *Safer Journeys 2020* which takes a safe system approach to road safety by working across all areas of the road system (roads, speeds, vehicles and road use).
- 5.4. The Coordinators work with local district and city councils, Police, and local community groups to undertake road safety education and awareness activities addressing the key issues which cause crashes in their areas.

## 6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1. Ministry of Transport road safety crash data for the current year to date, from 1 January to 11 November, shows 19 fatalities across our region from 17 crashes. Table 1 below, shows this compares favourably to previous two years.

**TABLE 1. Number of Road Deaths and Fatal Crashes in Manawatū/Whanganui Region, from 1 January to 13 November**

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Road Deaths	25	14	29	36	19
Fatal Crashes	23	12	23	31	17

- 6.2. Road safety crash data by road type shows where these deaths are occurring on our roading network. The majority of fatalities in our region, occurred on State Highways as shown in Table 2. Fatalities on local open roads has decreased from previous years.

**TABLE 2. Number of Road Deaths in Manawatū/Whanganui Region by Road Type, from 1 January to 13 November**

ROAD TYPE	URBAN/RURAL	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State highway	Open road	14	7	12	16	10
	Urban	2	0	4	0	3
Local road	Open road	7	7	9	13	4
	Urban	2	0	4	7	2

- 6.3. There has been an increase in cyclist deaths in 2019. Table 3 provides a breakdown of user types.

**TABLE 3. Number of Road Deaths in Manawatū/Whanganui Region by Type of Road User, from 1 January to 13 November**

TYPE OF ROAD USER	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Driver	12	8	15	15	10
Passenger	7	3	9	13	3
Motorcycle riders	3	2	4	3	3
Pedestrian	2	1	0	4	1
Cyclist	0	0	1	0	2
Other	1	0	0	1	0

- 6.4. Fatalities were mostly spread evenly across the age groups as Table 4 shows. This year has not shown any large increases as happened in 2018. Of the 19 fatalities in 2019, all but two were male. This gender imbalance is more severe than previous years as detailed in Table 5.

**TABLE 4. Number of Road Deaths in Manawatū/Whanganui Region by Age Group, from 1 January to 13 November**

AGE GROUP	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
0 - 15	3	0	2	7	3
16 - 19	2	0	3	1	0
20 - 24	2	4	3	5	3
25 - 39	6	4	6	6	3
40 - 59	7	5	8	4	5
60+	5	1	7	13	5

**TABLE 5. Number of Road Deaths in Manawatū/Whanganui Region by Gender, from 1 January to 13 November**

GENDER	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Female	10	5	7	10	2
Male	15	9	22	26	17

6.5. Table 6 below shows road deaths broken down by district.

**TABLE 6. Number of Road Deaths by District from 1 January to 13 November**

DISTRICT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Ruapehu	2	2	3	5	3
Whanganui	3	3	2	4	4
Rangitikei	4	2	3	3	3
Manawatū	4	5	7	6	1
Palmerston North	2	1	2	8	2
Tararua	3	1	4	5	4
Horowhenua	7	0	8	5	2

## 7. ROAD SAFETY TRENDS

7.1 Officers will speak to the road safety report to explain the fatal crash statistics. The Police representative will also be available to provide comment for the region.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

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

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**ROAD SAFETY COORDINATOR**

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**MANAGER TRANSPORT SERVICES**

## ANNEXES

There are no attachments to this report.