

Summary of Road Safety Presentation

A&P LCN Hwys WG meeting

1 May 2025

Avon and Somerset Police are actively addressing road safety by focusing on the "Fatal Five" offences: speeding, not wearing a seatbelt, driver distraction (including mobile phone use), drink and drug driving, and careless/inconsiderate driving. These behaviours are major contributors to fatal and serious injury collisions. The police are using a multi-pronged approach, including education, enforcement with unmarked vehicles, and community engagement through initiatives like Community Speed watch.

The "Fatal Five" in Detail:

1. **Speeding:**

Excessive speed significantly increases the risk of accidents and the severity of injuries.

2. **Not wearing a seatbelt:**

Seatbelts are crucial for reducing injury severity in a crash.

3. **Driver distraction (mobile phone use):**

Using a mobile phone while driving is a major distraction, diverting the driver's attention from the road.

4. **Drink and drug driving:**

Impairment from alcohol or drugs severely affects a driver's ability to operate a vehicle safely.

5. **Careless and inconsiderate driving:**

This encompasses a range of behaviours that show a lack of attention and consideration for other road users.

Police Efforts:

1. **Enforcement:**

Avon and Somerset Police use unmarked speed enforcement vans to encourage drivers to maintain safe speeds at all times.

2. **Community Speed watch:**

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Local residents volunteer their time to monitor speeds and report offenses, often focusing on areas with speeding issues.

3. **Road Safety Fund:**

This fund supports community programs and schools in preventing injuries caused by road traffic incidents.

4. **Targeted Operations:**

Operation Spotlight is an example of a targeted operation focused on removing dangerous drivers.

5. **Public Awareness Campaigns:**

Films and other media are used to highlight the dangers of the "Fatal Five" and encourage behaviour change.

6. **Community Engagement:**

The police actively work with communities to raise awareness and encourage reporting of dangerous driving.