



St Helena  
Government



## Strategic Intentions

Road Safety is a priority for the St Helena Police Directorate, it is our intention to provide a safe environment for our community and to change the mind set and behaviour of poor standard of driving.

### Strategic Priority

Our strategic plan priority 3 is 'Working with partners, volunteers and stakeholders to maintain public safety and our response to incidents'

### Objective

We have committed to making a 10% reduction in road collisions and to 'Enforce the road traffic ordinance fairly and target those offences that endanger others'.

### How will we achieve our objective?

To be able to achieve our objectives we will tackle road safety by concentrating on four important components.

1. SAFE PEOPLE
2. SAFE ROADS
3. SAFE SPEED
4. SAFE VEHICLES

## 1. Safe People

People underestimate the human body, the human body is fragile and not indestructible. On St Helena realistically our intensive care unit is not equipped to deal with life threatening injuries such as head trauma. Part of keeping people safe is to ensure that this is understood by all road users.

People are likely to make mistakes, human error is part of life, and it is what happens after a mistake is made and the consequences. People can be irresponsible or impaired by fatigue, alcohol or prescription/non-prescription/illicit drugs which leads to poor decision making.

### Drivers

Ensure that drivers

- Are competent to drive the class of vehicle and have a valid license
- Drive with the necessary care and attention required and to the condition of the road
- Are not distracted when driving
- Do not drive when impaired
- Do not overload their vehicles and secure goods and passengers
- Apply with any conditions by way of age limitation



### Passengers

Monitor and ensure that

- Any passengers being carried in or on a vehicle, complies with the manufactures safety requirements
- Passengers are seated and secured with the appropriate safety restraints.
- Passengers are not a cause of distraction to the driver.

### Other Road Users

Pedestrians, School Children, Cyclist, Road workers

- All road users to adhere to any road signage
- Remain on the correct walkways
- Observant to traffic conditions and dangers.



## 2. Safe Roads

On St Helena the condition of the road will vary, there are roads which is single lane with passing bays others have space for two lanes. A new road has been built for the airport, which is excellent but will cause issues. The road infrastructure plays a vital role in reducing crashes and the severity of injuries if there is an accident.

Work in partnership with agencies for

- All roads are adequately maintained
- Report faults to our partner agencies
- Ensure safety signage in place
- Evaluate current road system and recommend benefit of engineering design

## 3. Safe Speed

It goes without saying, speed is a contributing factor for any crashes on island. The roads are not intended for high speeds.

The maximum national speed limit is 30 mph, we will to the best of our ability ensure that motorist

- Drive to the conditions of the road and within the Speed Limits
- Restricted vehicle drive within their restriction

## 4. Safe Vehicles

Improving vehicle safety is so important and a key way to reducing accidents on our roads. Vehicles that are designed well and have the appropriate safety features can either help prevent a crash from happening in the first place or reduce and/or absorb some of the forces in a crash to help decrease the risk of death and serious injuries when crashes occurs.

Unfortunately, not all cars are manufactured equal and some are safer than others. We need to ensure the maximum safety standards for vehicles and target unsafe cars, but to ensure that we be fair and consistent to all motorist for the safety of vehicle.

Vehicles are

- *Licensed and insured*
- *In a safe and road worthy condition*
- *Used for purpose as designed*
- *Legally exempt if Heavy and large with conditions for use on our roads*
- *Being passed by the MOT inspectors at a high standard*



## OPERATIONAL APPROACH

On St Helena people are law abiding and our well aware of the do's and don'ts but there are a minority who are ill responsibly and will take risks.

The approach we will take is to use a Key Road Safety tools to achieve the four important components will be the Five E's for Road Safety.

**E****ducation:** We will educate the community from School age through to all Driving Ages, this will be done by way of talks to specific targeted audiences, via the local and SHG media, Campaigns. Change the mind-set of motorist and acknowledge that taking risks and illegal driving behaviour have real consequences and social impacts.

**E****nforcement:** Analyse Hot Spots and increase Policing presence to identify offenders. A warning and prosecution criteria for identified offender who has cooperated and accepted responsibility/liability for their actions so as we are consistent and considering the public interest test. Robust enforcement especially to repeat offenders.

**E****ngagement:** We will continue to reassure the community by way of a high visible presence and to engage with the community, during our day to day patrols, Community Surgeries or any open day or other functions or engagement opportunities to communicate our Road Safety strategy and to obtain intelligence of offending or antisocial driving.

**E****ngineering:** Work with our partnering agencies to ensure that current signage and safety measures that are in place are well maintained and recommend new measures to the Highway Authorities or SHG Roads Department that is realistic and affordable. Develop the MOT testing to ensure vehicles are being passed to a high standard.

**E****mergency Response:** Ensure that we have the training and equipment to be able to respond to the best of our ability.



## ROAD SAFETY NUMBERS

50

**Legal Alcohol Limit.** Prescribed limit for driving with alcohol in your breath - 50 micrograms of alcohol per hundred millilitres of breath.

30

**National Speed Limit.** The national speed limit is 30 mph, residential areas are 20mph, with some areas 10 mph.

18+

**Driving Age.** A driver must have attain the age of eighteen years. Any drivers 70 and over will need to pass a medical.

12

**License.** A drivers license and vehicle license must be renewed on an annual basis.

3

**Foreign License.** You may drive on a foreign drivers license for 3 months within a year.

For more information, contact us

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