

Considerable progress has been made in cutting road casualties in Scotland since the mid 1990s. By 2008 the number of people killed or seriously injured on Scotland's roads was 41% lower than the average for 1994-98, compared with the UK Government target for a 40% reduction by 2010. The number of children killed or seriously injured was 65% lower than the baseline, exceeding the UK Government target for a 50% reduction by 2010.

Nevertheless, the Scottish Government believes that the risk of death is still unacceptably high and that more needs to be done to make Scotland's roads safer for all road users, and particularly in respect of children, young drivers and rural roads. On 15 June 2009 the Scottish Government published Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020, which sets out the vision of "a steady reduction in the number of those killed and those seriously injured, with the ultimate vision of a future where no-one is killed on Scotland's roads, and the injury rate is much reduced". The Framework sets the first ever road casualty reduction targets for Scotland. These are for the period to 2020 and are for:

- a 40% reduction in the number of people killed, with a milestone of a 30% reduction by 2015;
- a 55% reduction in the number of people seriously injured, with a milestone of a 43% reduction by 2015;
- a 50% reduction in the number of children killed, with a milestone of a 35% reduction by 2015; and
- a 65% reduction in the number of children seriously injured, with a milestone of a 50% reduction by 2015,

compared with the average for 2004-08.

In addition the Scottish Government would like to see a 10% reduction in the slight casualty rate, expressed as the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle kilometres.

The Framework sets out priority issues, identified through a public consultation exercise, expert opinion, research and statistics. It also includes a range of commitments designed to address these issues. Delivery of the commitments is not the sole responsibility of the Scottish Government. Local authorities, the emergency services, road safety organisations, employers, parents, and road users themselves, are expected to share responsibility for and to contribute to making Scotland's roads safer for all. Effective working with all delivery partners will be key to achieving the targets.

I attach a link to the Framework for your information.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/06/08103221/0>

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