

# Road Safety Plan 2010 - 2015

























#### **Our Mission**

To reduce the number of road collision casualties in County Donegal in line with national and European casualty reduction targets.





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North West Alcohol Forum Ltd

**HSE, Health Promotion** 

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**Donegal County Council** 

**Donegal Driving Instructors** 

North West Alcohol Forum Ltd

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**Donegal Youth Service** 

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### Introduction

This is the Donegal Road Safety Plan 2010-2015 produced by the Donegal Road Safety Working Group (DRSWG) with the objective of improving road safety in the county. This is the third plan produced by the group and between 1997, when the first plan was produced, and 2009 there has been a reduction of 46% in the number of road fatalities in the country. This plan will consolidate and build on the achievements of the previous two plans.

The plan has been prepared by the DRSWG to ensure a co-ordinated, collaborative and consistent approach to improving road safety for all road users. This six year plan will be achieved by a series of strategic objectives centred around five core elements which are: Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Evaluation and Empowerment.

The Donegal Road Safety Working Group is an interagency group the members of which include:

- Donegal County Council (DCC) (including the Fire Service)
- National Roads Authority (NRA)
- An Garda Síochána (AGS)
- Health Service Executive (HSE)
   (including the Ambulance Service)
- Road Safety Authority (RSA)
- Donegal VEC (VEC)
- · Donegal Youth Council (DYC)
- Donegal Driving Instructors (DI)
- North West Alcohol Forum Ltd (NWAF)
- Donegal Youth Service (DYS)



Mayor Cora Harvey, County Manager Seamus Neely and John McLaughlin, Director of Roads and Transportation meeting with the Donegal Road Safety Working Group.

## **Objectives**

The clear objective of the Donegal Road Safety Plan 2010 - 2015 is:

'To reduce the number of road collision casualties in County Donegal in line with national and European casualty reduction targets.'

This means that we are aiming to have no more than 9 deaths per year by the end of 2015 on the roads of County Donegal. This Plan offers a strategic direction for all stakeholders and is based on collision data from 2002 - 2008 and experience gained by the DRSWG in delivering the previous two plans.

## **Implementation**

This plan focuses on five core elements, which as previously outlined are: Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Evaluation and Empowerment. Empowerment is vitally important as it underpins the cultural shift, which will be required to effectively achieve road safety within County Donegal. This means that every single one of us as road users, in all of our various roles within the community, such as family members, education providers, community leaders and volunteers, care givers and employees have to take personal responsibility for both our own safety and the safety of others. Empowerment is the overarching element of this plan and forms the fundamental foundation on which the other four elements will be achieved.



#### **National Road Safety**

Nationally, the Road Safety Authority (RSA) is tasked with improving safety on our roads in order to reduce deaths and injuries resulting from road collisions. The legal basis for the RSA is set out in the Road Safety Authority Act 2006. The RSA formally came into existence on 1st September 2006. Ireland's third Road Safety Strategy (2007-2012) was published by the RSA in 2007. The primary aim of the National Strategy is to reduce collisions, deaths and injuries on Irish roads. In terms of fatalities this amounts to a reduction on average of 21 fatalities per month. This equates to 252 fatalities per annum or not greater than 60 deaths per million of the population with a demonstrable reduction each year of the strategy.

#### **EU Road Safety**

Since 2001, the number of road fatalities has decreased dramatically across the EU. Today there are 35% fewer road fatalities than there were in 2001. Ireland has seen a decrease of 42% between 2001 and 2009. Some countries have seen even more dramatic reductions, such as Latvia with a 55% reduction and Spain with half the road fatalities as in 2001.

#### Evolution of Fatalities (2001-2009)



Source: CARE (EU road accidents database)

# **Community Support**

The development of this plan included a public consultation process incorporating local communities. The DRSWG is committed to working in partnership with local communities throughout the county so they can work towards playing their part in reducing road collisions. This will be achieved through ongoing interaction in a variety of ways as outlined within the core elements of the Action Plan.



## **Cross Border Co-Operation**



County Donegal shares 93% of its land border with Northern Ireland and the remainder with Leitrim. Research has shown that both jurisdictions share similar problems in relation to road safety. Through this plan, the DRSWG therefore commits to working with the relevant authorities in Northern Ireland to implement joint good practice schemes such as Anti Drink Driving Campaigns, Bank Holiday Campaigns and Young Driver Initiatives.

## **Profile of County**

County Donegal is located in the North West of Ireland and comprises of an area of 483,042 hectares, equivalent to 1,193,621 acres. It is the most Northern County in Ireland and has an extensive boundary with Northern Ireland, notably Counties Derry, Tyrone and Fermanagh. Donegal is predominately rural with only seven large census towns exceeding 1,500 population, which are Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Donegal Town, Stranorlar / Ballybofey, Letterkenny, Buncrana and Carndonagh, according to the Census of Population 2006. There are 17 medium sized towns with populations between 500 and 1500, while there are 35 small sized towns, with populations between 150 and 500.

#### **Population**

The figures from the Central Statistics Office for Donegal from the 2006 census shows a total population of 147,264 made up of 73,970 male and 73,294 females. This shows a rise from the 2002 population figure of 137,575, which breaks down to 69,016 males and 68,559 females.

Year	2002	2006	% Change (2002-2006)
Donegal	137,575	147,264	7%
Ireland	3,917,203	4,239,848	8.2%

County Donegal's Gaeltacht comprises of 23,783 people and is the second largest Gaeltacht in the country representing 26% of the total Gaeltacht land area. The Donegal Gaeltacht has the highest percentage of people who speak Irish daily.

#### Car Ownership

In 2009, there were 59,489 cars registered in County Donegal compared to 10 years ago when there were 36,851 registered. This follows the national trend, which demonstrates a continued increase in car ownership in the state with the number of registered motor vehicles and motor cycles increasing by 65% from 1,510,853 in 1998 to 2,497,568 in 2008.

#### **Road Network**

The 6,274km of road network in County Donegal consists of 148km of National Primary Roads, 156km of National Secondary Roads and 770km of Regional Roads leaving 5,200km of local road network.

#### Collision trends in Donegal 2002-2009

Year	Fatalities	Serious	Minor	Totals					
2002	20	72	275	367					
2003	23	79	353	455					
2004	29	69	314	412					
2005	27	65	358	450					
2006	19	64	357	440					
2007	22	71	337	430					
2008	18	65	425	508					
2009	14*		*Provisional Figure						

Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database

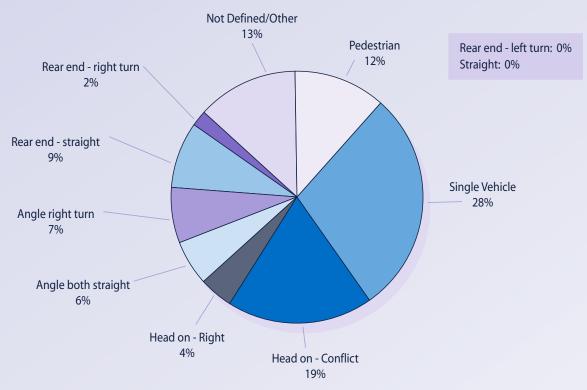
#### Cost

The estimated cost of all fatal and injury collisions recorded in Donegal by An Garda Síochána in 2008 was 89 million (Goodbody 2004). The number of recorded injuries has been gradually decreasing in recent years, but increased substantially in 2008 (This increase in 2008 is partly due to improvements in the reporting of minor injury collisions).



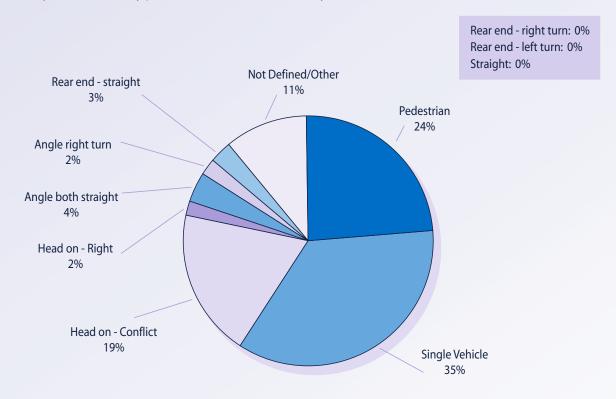
## Collision Statistics (2002 - 2008)

#### Primary Collision Type (All fatal and injury collisions)



Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database

#### Primary Collision Type (Fatal collisions only)



Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database

#### **Collision Ratio**

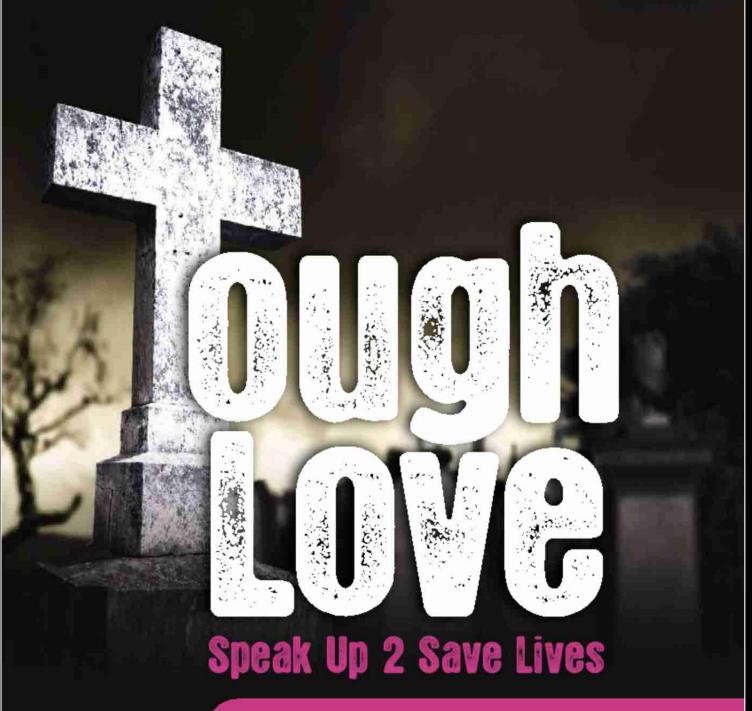
In line with current thinking regarding collision causation, the collision pyramid for County Donegal and Ireland is shown below. For every 53 collisions in Donegal, 1 (or 1.9%) will be fatal and 17.2 (or 32.5%) will result in a fatality, a serious injury or a minor injury. Nationally, for every 97.4 collisions, 1 collision (or 1.0%) will be fatal and 20.6 collisions (or 21.1%) will result in a fatality, serious injury or minor injury.



Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database



County Manager Seamus Neely, John McLaughlin, Director of Roads and Transportation and Eamonn Brown Road Safety Officer meeting with members of the Emergency Services.



Do you love him enough to save him from himself? If you are concerned about the driving of your partner, son, brother or friend you can call or text the number below in complete confidence. A Garda will then talk with him about his driving. Don't wait until he has killed you, himself or someone else. Regrets don't save lives - Now is the time for Tough Love.

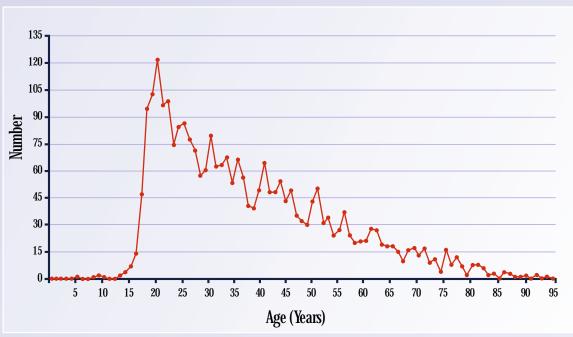
# Call or Text our confidential line 087 9809999

The above number will complement existing services.

In emergencies dial 999 or 112 Confidential Line: 1 800 666 111 Traffic Watch: 1 890 205 805



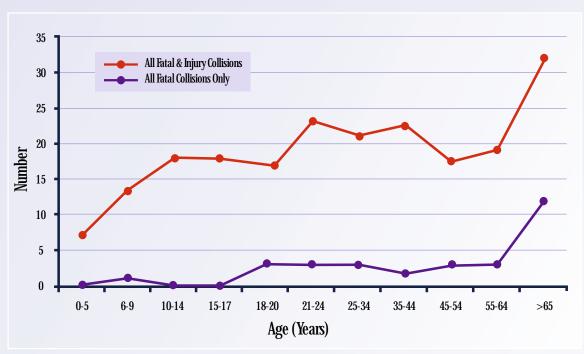
#### Age profile of Drivers & Cyclists (All fatal and injury collisions)



Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database

The graph above shows the age profile of drivers and cyclists that were involved in a fatal or injury type collision in Donegal between 2002 and 2008. There is a peak for the 17 - 25 age group, who are 4 times more likely to be involved in collision than the 65+ age group.

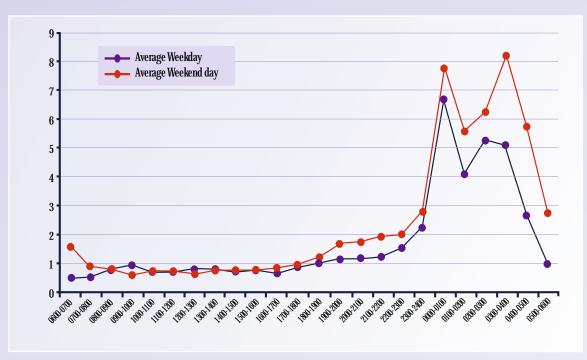
#### Age profile of Pedestrians involved in Collisions



Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database

The graph above shows the age profile of pedestrians that were involved in all fatal and injury collisions and fatal only collisions in Donegal between 2002 and 2008. Pedestrians over the age of 65 are almost twice as likely to be involved in a collision and are 4 times more likely to be involved in a fatal collision than an 18-20 year old.

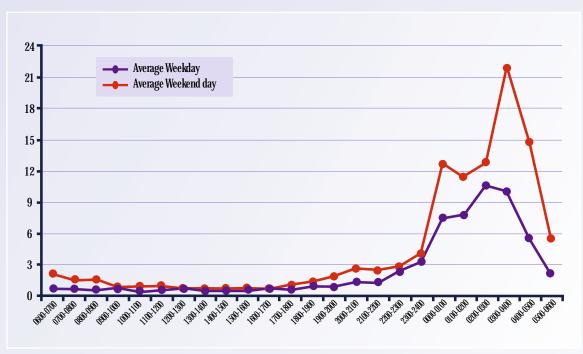
#### Relative Average Hourly Risk (All fatal and injury collisions)



Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database

The graph above shows the relative risk of being involved in a fatal or injury type collision taking into account the volume of traffic on the roads each hour in an average weekday and weekend day. Road users are approximately 8 times more likely to be involved in a collision between 4am–5am on a weekend night than at any time between 7am and 6pm.

#### Relative Average Hourly Risk (Fatal collisions only)



Source: 2002-2008 Donegal County Council collision database

With regard to fatal collisions only, road users are 22 times more likely to be involved in a fatal collision between 3am-4am on a weekend night than they are between 9am and 6pm on any day during the week, taking into account the volume of traffic on the roads at the time.









## Education

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies
A	Develop a DRSWG continuum of	1	Road Safety Authority educational resources in all	1.1	Identify existing resources and match to all educational settings in county	2011 Q2	DCC	VEC
	learning resources for 0 – 25 year olds		0-25 year old educational settings	1.2	Promote the use of the resources to all educational settings and health professionals	2012 Q1	DCC	RSA/HSE/ DYC/ VEC/ DWAF
				1.3	Provide training on the use of the resources to teaching staff and health professionals	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	RSA	DCC
		2	Adapt website as a key tool for the promotion of DRSWG and	2.1	Modify website to incorporate a road safety "one stop shop" for all DRSWG campaigns, info packs etc	2011 Q2	DCC	NWAF
			maximise internet based communication	2.2	Use of social networking sites to be explored and used to reach a wider audience	2011 Q3	DYS	DYC/VEC
			opportunities	2.3	Ongoing monitoring and review of the website to ensure up to date and good practice information is provided	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	DYC
		3	Creation of a programme to ensure	3.1	Implement a driver training programme which has been produced by the RSA	2012 Q2	DI	
			comprehensive training of new, existing and professional drivers in the county	3.2	Establish and promote driving programmes specifically aimed at raising the standard of drivers i.e. Advanced Driving Courses, Refresher Driving Courses and Defensive Driving Courses	2013 Q1	DI	DCC

## Education

	Objective	(	Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies
В	Develop community based leadership	1	leadership initiative	1.1	Promote concept of communities promoting road safety through local events	2012 Q2	DCC	HSE/DYC/ VEC/NWAF
			developed	1.2	Offer support training opportunities to potential community leaders	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	RSA	
				1.3	Promotion of RSA Community Resource to leaders to assist delivery of a consistent message	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	RSA	HSE/DCC/ VEC/NWAF
		2	Parental role model project developed	2.1	Develop concept of parents as role models and develop resources to support this	2012 Q3	HSE	NWAF
				2.2	Offer support training opportunities to parents	2012 Q3	HSE	RSA/NWAF
С	promotion and awareness activities aimed at positively changing the behaviour of all	1	Implement media campaigns which target the	1.1	Produce and agree an annual communications plan with all members of the DRSWG	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	HSE/RSA/ DYC
			main causal factors of road collisions which	1.2	Produce information leaflets and resources on road safety	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	RSA	HSE/DCC
	road users		lead to death and serious injury for road users	1.3	Implement local media campaigns	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	HSE/RSA/ DYC

## Education

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies
D	Develop road safety packages for workplaces	1	Information resource for workplaces	1.1	Develop resource pack of general information to be disseminated to workplaces each year	2011 Q2	DCC	HSE/ NWAF
	developed		иечелореи	1.2	Promote 'Driving for Work CD Rom' produced by the RSA and HSA via radio adverts, press releases and information on the RSA/DRSWG website	2010 Q4	RSA	VEC
			1.3	Produce an annual safe driving to work campaign	2011 Q4	DCC	NWAF	
		2	Provide training to workplaces	2.1	Promote defensive/advanced driver training programmes	2012 Q3	DI	DCC
E	Focus on older people and their needs	1	Develop a resource pack for older road users and any	1.1	Develop and promote a road safety programme for older people to cover safe driving, walking and cycling	2010 Q4	RSA	HSE/DCC
			necessary training	1.2	Ensure at least one awareness campaign per year is particularly focused on older road users	2011 Q2	DCC	HSE

## Engineering

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies	
A	Improve communication and co-ordination between Council	1	Develop Collision Prevention Programme and improve format	1.1	Maintain and monitor Collision Prevention Programme (CPP) meetings	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	Garda	DCC/NRA	
	Gardaí, Groups and others		improve tormat	1.2	NRA and Regional Traffic Inspectors to review CPP	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	NRA	AGS	
				1.3	Agree countywide proposal for Low Cost Accidents scheme	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	NRA	
				1.4	Continue funding and evaluation of Low Cost Accident Schemes on all roads	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	NRA	DCC	
		3	Complete IA16 forms after all fatal and life	2.1	IA16 forms to be completed where necessary and forwarded to NRA within 3 working days	2011 Q2	DCC	NRA	
				changing collisions	2.2	Monitor and collate LA16 forms	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	NRA	
				2.3	IA16 forms to be a standing agenda item at CPP meetings	2011 Q2	DCC	NRA	
			Communication channels with Community Groups (bulletin / community register) opened	3.1	Road Safety to be included in the interactions between Donegal County Council's Community, Culture and Enterprise Department and community groups	2011 Q2	DCC	DYC	
				3.2	Procedure to be established to consider submissions from the public received through Community, Culture and Enterprise	2012 Q2	DCC		

## Engineering

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies	
В	Identify, prioritise and implement	1	Safety measures	1.1	Continue to identify, prioritise and remedy hazardous locations	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	AGS/NRA	
	engineering improvement measures	2	Accident data produced	2.1	Maintain the most up to date accident data system possible	2012 Q2	DCC		
				2.2	Add material damage accidents to data base	2012 Q2	DCC		
				2.3	Use 'Map Road' to manage data base	2012 Q2	DCC		
		3	Road safety checks	3.1	Use a standard report for road safety checks	2012 Q2	DCC		
				3.2	Develop a road safety assessment system in accordance with new EU systems	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	NRA		
				3.3	Road safety checks to be conducted on request by electoral area meetings	2012 Q2	DCC		
						3.4	Maintain a core staff expertise within DCC to carry out safety checks and safety audits	2012 Q2	DCC
		4	School Safety Measures	4.1	Implement the Schools Safety Measure Report	2014 Q3	DCC		
				4.2	Promote the use of School Travel Plans by schools	2012 Q3	DCC	DYV/VEC	
				4.3	Provide expertise and assistance to schools developing School Travel Plans	2012 Q2	DCC	VEC	

## Engineering

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies
С	Utilise technology to improve	1	Winter maintenance	1.1	Keep the public informed of winter maintenance operations	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	
	communication with road users			1.2	Maintain weather forecast stations to advise on winter maintenance	2010 to 2015	NRA	DCC
				1.3	Link DCC winter maintenance website section to the NRA road weather website	2010 Q4	NRA	DCC
		2	Road works	2.1	Keep the public informed of planned road works	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	NRA
		3	Road condition	3.1	Utilise new technology to provide real time traffic data (e.g. slippery surfaces)	2015 Q4	NRA	
		4	Tiaffic data	4.1	Explore options of uploading live traffic data to Sat Nav systems and radio systems	2015 Q4	DCC	

### Enforcement

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies
A	High visibility enforcement in the areas of:	1	Speeding	1.1	Full utilisation of detection equipment and enabled technology	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	DCC/NRA
				1.2	Deployment of safety cameras at collision prone zones	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	
				1.3	Continued development of the Automated Number Plate Recognition System	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	
		2	Dangerous/ Impaired Driving	2.1	Increase detections of impaired driving	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	
				2.2	Increase mandatory alcohol testing checkpoints	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	
				2.3	Highly visibility enforcement targeting errant road users behaviour	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	
				2.4	Enforcement resources deployed will reflect the risk, location and time profile of collisions	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	
В	Enhance Multi Agency and Cross border liaison with PSNI	1	Cross border collaboration	1.1	Continue liaison with the relevant cross border agencies to address regional road safety issues through joint targeted operations	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	DCC

### Enforcement

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies			
С	Transportation enforcement to include:	1	Commercial Vehicles (testing and Weighbridges)	1.1	Liaise with Donegal County Council and other stakeholders on the enforcement of excessive weight in commercial vehicles	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	DCC/NRA			
				1.2	Perform multi unit high visibility checkpoints with Road Safety Authority and other stakeholders	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	RSA			
		2	Tachograph monitoring	2.1	Increase tachograph inspections on heavy goods vehicles in the county	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	RSA			
				2.2	Conduct intelligence led checkpoints and patrols	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	DCC			
D	Develop a cohesive approach to road safety campaigns	1	Encourage improved road user behaviour	1.1	Avail of all opportunities to highlight the importance of safe road use	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	HSE/DYC/ DCC			
	saicty campaigns						1.2	Target media campaigns at high risk periods and at major events	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	HSE/DYC/ DCC
				1.3	Further develop the "Tough Love" and Tiaffic Watch programmes	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	AGS	HSE/DYC/ DCC			

## **Evaluation**

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action	Target Date	Process Owner	Support Agencies
A	To effectively monitor and evaluate the Donegal Road Safety Strategy 2010-2015	1	Evaluate the process of how the DRSWG carries out its business	1.1	Complete a pre road safety plan survey among all members of the DRSWG, evaluate results and provide feedback to all members of the group	2011 Q2	DCC	DYC/DYS
	2010-2013			1.2	Complete a mid term review of the plan among all members of DRSWG	2011 Q4	DCC	DRSWG
				1.3	Complete a post plan review among all members of DRSWG	2015 Q4	DCC	DRSWG
		2	Monitor the achievement of the road safety actions contained in this plan	2.1	Develop and agree a quarterly reporting template with all members of the DRSWG. Agree the process and timelines by which these templates will be completed	2010 Q3	DCC	DRSWG
				2.2	Complete quarterly reports each year and present at DRSWG meeting. Forward copy of report, post meeting, to Donegal County Council's Research and Policy Unit	Yearly Q1	DCC	DRSWG
				2.3	Identify areas where little activity is taking place i.e. where scheduled actions have not been initiated and provide feedback to DRSWG at end of each year	Yearly Q4	DCC	

## Evaluation

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action		Process Owner	Support Agencies
		3	Capture the level of community empowerment initiated an supported throughout the lifetime of the plan captured	3.1	Monitor the number and type of community consultations; the number of community participants involved and the different community channels (access channels) used and include this information as part of the quarterly monitoring reports	Ongoing to 2015 Q5	DCC	
				3.2	Develop standard feedback template for the major road safety events held by the DRSWG and associated partners * Road Safe Road Show, * European Night without Accident, * Cross Border Young Driver Challenge, * Mock Road Tiaffic Collision. Gain agreement that this template will be used at all of these listed events	2010 Q4	DCC	HSE
				3.3	Secure funding to set up a Donegal Road Safety Consumer Panel, consisting of at least two schools in each of the Electoral Areas and one non-school setting to gauge any changes to road safety attitudes throughout the life time of the plan. To ensure inclusion of all young persons within the county this panel will be developed in close cooperation with Youthreach, Donegal Youth Service and the Donegal Youth Council.	2011 Q1	DCC	Youthreach /VEC/ DYS/HSE
				3.4	Maintain the Donegal Road Safety Consumer Panel and carry out a questionnaire in the second quarter of each year to determine changes in attitudes as students progress through the educational system or through the participation of young people in various projects and programmes including Donegal Youthreach, Donegal Youth Services and the Donegal Youth Council.	Ongoing to 2015 Q5	DCC	Youthreach /VEC/ DYS/HSE

## Evaluation

	Objective		Outputs/Areas		Action		Process Owner	Support Agencies
		4	Evaluate the success of the Donegal Road Safety Working Group in reaching their agreed set of targets	4.1	Develop a set of 15 overall targets for the road safety plan in consultation with all of the member's agencies	2010 Q4	DCC	DRSWG
				4.2	Present targets to the DRSWG to gain agreement that this is the definitive set of targets that the group will strive to reach on an interagency basis	2010 Q4	DCC	DRSWG
				4.3	Update on progress in reaching these targets at the end of each year	Ongoing to 2015 Q4	DCC	



#### DONEGAL ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGNS









For More Information on Current Road Safety Initiatives Visit:

## www.donegalroadsafety.ie

or contact:

#### **Road Safety Officer**

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