

YEA CRASH - Safer roads, fewer deaths
Minutes of meeting 1st March 2009 1.30pm-3.30pm at County Hall

Present - Leah, Liam, Emily Z, Laura, Kyle, Jess, Danni, Jack, Toby, Helen, Stefanie, Lucie, David (Fire and Rescue Service), Andrea (Fire and Rescue Service), Sherilyn (YEA staff)

Apologies - Alice, Rachel

Absent without apologies - Ben, Damion, Kayleigh

Introductions

This is the first meeting of the road safety subgroup so everyone introduced themselves and talked a little about their reasons for joining this group.

Group Identity

It was decided that we would call ourselves:
Our hoodies / polo shirts will be grey with the red CRASH logo and "Safer roads, Fewer deaths" printed on.



Action Point - Sherilyn to start process for getting clothing.

Presentation

David Hadjicostas gave a presentation on the problems with Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) and the number of Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) people on Essex roads. The presentation included the work that Essex is doing to reduce the problem. Some key facts where:

- We had 154 young drivers (under 25) killed or seriously injured in the Essex County Council area from a total of 695 in 2008.
- Although absolutely dreadful in terms of misery and suffering, it was a substantial fall from the previous year (2007) total which was 204 young people KSI.
- Our aim for 2009, in partnership with the YEA and others, is to get that total below 113 or less.

- According to Government research (HEN 1), each fatality costs the U.K economy £1.8m in terms of clearing up the mess and dealing with the consequences, and each serious injury at £266k.

What can we do?

What we can do to address the problem and to help with the reduction of KSI's in Essex was discussed at length.

The main points agreed on were:

- We will work in partnership with Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to reduce the numbers of young people dying or being seriously injured in Essex.
- We need to concentrate on young people who are drivers and passengers in cars / motorbikes/ scooters rather than pedestrians, cyclists etc.
- We should look to run some sort of event to educate young people run by the YEA in partnership with experts.
- The message could be really powerful coming from other young people.
- We could involve drama in the event, David told us about a theatre performance that was very powerful involving the professionals and the victims involved in an RTC.
- We could get people to talk about their personal experiences, this could be professionals (police, fire, medics) or victims, friends, family etc.
- We could try and produce some information that was aimed at young people that schools could use.
- There was interest in a scheme where primary children had stopped cars outside their school to tell people off for speeding, perhaps the YEA could do something similar.

Action Point - Everyone to think about ways we can make an impact and ideas for an event and bring ideas to next meeting.

Opportunities to learn more

David said we could learn more about RTCs by working with the Police or the Fire Service, he talked about various opportunities such as seeing the equipment and vehicles used in collisions and talking to the workers involved.

Action Point - Everyone to think about any opportunities they feel would be valuable and bring ideas / reasons to next meeting.

Next meeting

Stephanie will chair the next meeting (we will have a different chair each time) and any agenda points need to be sent to the YEA office as soon as possible. Our next meeting is on Saturday 28th March 1.30-3.30pm at County Hall, if you can not attend you must send your apologies.

Action Point - Everyone to send agenda points to YEA office if they have any.