



Working with the police

What problems have you encountered with the police?



Road Justice recommendations

1. To ensure evidence is collected properly, the police should use ACPO's Road Death Investigation Manual in cases of serious injury as well as death

2. The police should attend all road crash scenes resulting in injury and collect as much evidence as possible at the scene

3. The police should investigate reports of seriously bad or aggressive driving even when no injury occurs

4. The police should facilitate collision and near miss reporting

5. Potential ancillary offences (e.g. mobile phone use at the wheel) should be investigated

6. The police need to be adequately resourced to respond appropriately to collisions; to investigate them thoroughly; and to enforce the law

7. Roads policing should be prioritised for investment

8. Roads police should receive better training

9. All road crash victims should be treated as victims of crime

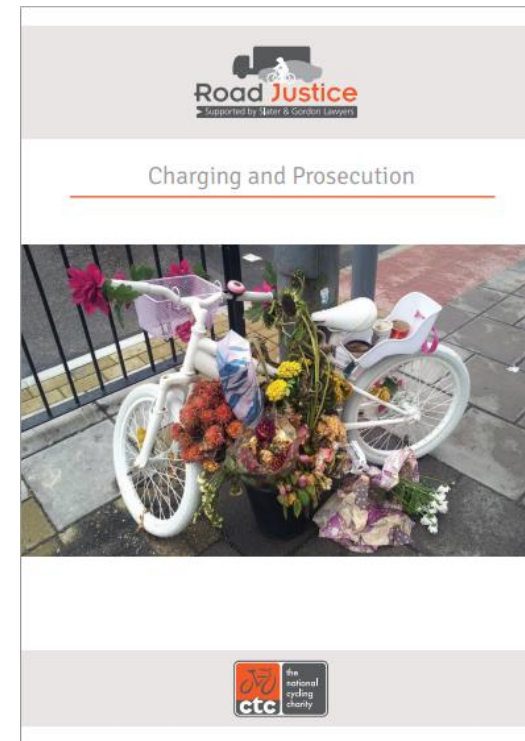
10. Police officers should guard against blaming the victim



Road Justice recommendations

Three important recommendations, which if accompanied by training, should help stop the dismissal of dangerous driving as careless:

1. Charging and prosecution guidance should undergo a full consultation and review
2. There should be a systematic process for the police and CPS to document and report the reasons for their charging decisions or for taking no further action
3. Driver alertness schemes should not be used as an alternative to prosecution in serious cases



National engagement with the police



- 12,000 strong petition handed to ACPO cycling lead, who encouraged all ACCs to work with local road safety partnerships and local CTC representatives
- Road Justice presented at ACPO/Police Federation conference in Jan 2015
- Working with ACPO/College of Policing on their 'Roads Policing Learning Project'
- Highlighting police and CPS failures by fighting cases with support from the Cyclists' Defence Fund



Why engage with the police locally?

- Police have been given increased powers to make decisions about spending and policing priorities
- There are locally specific challenges and problems that need to be tackled – and local campaigners know about these better than a national organisation
- Many of the Road Justice recommendations should be handled by individual forces
- The police need to be held to account by the public – and can and should be via Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs)



What can you do to get the police to take action?



- First of all, request a meeting
- Use social media to your advantage – does your PCC have a twitter account?
- Request a SPOC, as suggested by the ACPO Cycling Lead
- Use the Road Justice police map to find out how your force has responded to the campaign - www.roadjustice.org.uk/police-petition-map
- Use the recommendations in the Road Justice reports, supported by the watchdog report, as a basis for discussions – make sure whoever you meet has read the reports
- If possible, take local examples of failures with you to the meeting
- Work out with the police what issues can realistically be tackled, which should be tackled first and how
- Follow up meetings and commitments – don't let things get kicked into the long grass
- For a best practice case study of working with the police see www.ctc.org.uk/case-study/bristol-road-justice-campaigners-put-pressure-police

