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Foreword

am proud to have been asked to write the foreword for Knowsley's Road Safety Around Schools Strategy as I feel strongly about protecting all of our children and young people from risk and ensuring that their journey to and from school is safe.

Children and young people are particularly vulnerable road users; however, interventions can be made to reduce the risk they experience when using the road network. One of the main reasons why children use the road network is to travel to and from school, which should be an enjoyable experience where families and friends can socialise, have fun and get some exercise, and this strategy will help to make this a reality.

As the number of cars on our roads continues to increase, and we become increasingly conscious of air pollution, it is ever more important that we work together. Knowsley Better Together is about bringing people closer together to achieve more for our borough and our residents. It is more than just an initiative or policy – it brings to life a whole new approach to finding solutions and delivering services by working better together.

This strategy has adopted the Knowsley Better Together way of working and I am looking forward to working with all our partners to make safe and sustainable travel the norm in Knowsley.



Cllr Margaret Harvey
Cabinet Member for Children's Services



Maintaining the safety of Knowsley's children and young people is paramount to the Council and its partners. One activity that children undertake on a regular basis is travelling to and from school, which can present a number of hazards to them. Their journey to and from school should be enjoyable, a chance to socialise and part of a healthy routine.

Knowsley's vision is for every child and young person to travel to school in a healthy, safe and sustainable way. It is the responsibility of all of us to make sure this happens; Knowsley's Road Safety Around Schools Strategy will help us work together to achieve this. The strategy will support the Council's corporate priorities of



Maximising the Council's contribution to education in Knowsley



Maximising the Council's contribution to the health and wellbeing of Knowsley's residents



Creating a sustainable Borough

The Knowsley Partnership is committed to improving road safety around the Borough's schools

The Knowsley Partnership is the collective name for the strategic partnership arrangements in Knowsley that is committed to achieving the vision set out in the Strategy for Knowsley, one of which is making Knowsley 'The Borough of Choice' by 2023. The Strategy for Knowsley highlights the importance of ensuring children get the best possible start in life and that residents are healthy and safe. Maintaining road safety around the Borough's schools and the safety of children on their journey to and from school is an important part of achieving these goals.

Working together is essential to improving road safety around schools

A co-ordinated, intelligence led approach is proven to be the most effective way of maintaining road safety around schools. Reducing the number of child casualties injured in road collisions remains a priority in the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Road Safety Strategy, with continued education and training activities considered vital to further improvement in this area. The LCR strategy highlights the importance of a collaborative approach amongst all strategic partners and stakeholders. In the context of road safety around schools this includes the Knowsley Partnership and Merseyside Road Safety Partnership (MRSP) along with school teachers, Governors and leadership teams, parents, motorists and children.

This strategy takes note of the continued City Region work that focuses on creating a place "where walking and cycling are the safe, healthy and pleasant choice". This vision underpins Liverpool City Region's Local Journeys Strategy, which recognises the importance of this being a "shared vision as it is not something any one organisation can deliver on its own".

The National Police Chiefs' Council five year strategy 'Policing the Roads in Partnership 2015-2020' contains four strategic objectives: safe, secure, effective and efficient roads. Its vision of 'Working in Partnership for Safe, Secure and Efficient Roads' underpins the principles of our own strategy. The National Police Chiefs' Council have a mission statement, which highlights the need to work in partnership to achieve safer roads free from harm, secure roads free from the threat of serious crime and efficient roads that promote public confidence and satisfaction. Working with partners and stakeholders, Merseyside Police's ambition is to create a shift in public attitude and behaviour to one of habitual compliance.

Road safety around schools is a locally owned issue that affects us all

Local Authorities have a statutory duty under section 39 of the 1988 Road Traffic Act to "take steps both to reduce and prevent accidents".

Amongst other responsibilities this requires Local Authorities and partners to prepare and carry out a programme of measures designed to promote road safety. The Strategic Framework for Road Safety, which was published by the Department for Transport (DfT) in May 2011, aims to facilitate the continued reduction in deaths and injuries on our roads. The Framework provides flexibility and room for innovation for local areas to decide how to set out their own road safety strategies.

The third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) for Merseyside provides the transport strategy and plans for the county of Merseyside and as one of its six goals sets out to ensure the transport system promotes

and enables improved health, wellbeing and road safety. Similarly the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority's Transport Plan for Growth acknowledges that "safer roads are vital, not only in terms of the health and safety of City Region residents and visitors, but also in terms of its cost to the economy" and "improved road safety" is identified as a key outcome.

Consultation and engagement

In developing this strategy the Council engaged with parents, Youth Parliament, Head Teachers and Governors to obtain their views on the key issues regarding road safety. Engagement with these groups has been underpinned by principles of co-production which are in line with Knowsley Better Together. Parents and Governors were asked a series of questions via an online survey; the responses from these groups were considered as

well as the responses from several meetings with Head Teachers, Youth Parliament and other partners such as Merseyside Police in the development of this strategy. After analysing the responses key issues have been identified and there is an agreement that all parties who were consulted should support one another going forwards to achieve the aims of this strategy. This strategy sets out a range of actions for all stakeholders that will ensure greater levels of road safety around Knowsley schools.

The online survey received in excess of 230 responses, with the overwhelming majority agreeing with the priorities outlined in Section 3 of this strategy. As part of the consultation parents and Governors both identified a variety of ways in which they can support this strategy including:





The following priorities have been developed to deliver the strategy's overall vision, which is to maintain road safety around schools and to enable children and young people to travel to and from school in a safe, healthy and sustainable manner.

Successfully creating a safe environment on the roads around schools, and for children to travel to and from school safely, requires the use of various methods to reduce the risk to children and encourage responsible use of the road and

surrounding areas by all road users. This strategy identifies four complementary key priorities to create a safer environment on the roads around schools: these are Education, Encouragement, Enforcement and Engineering.

behaviour of people around schools. Everyone needs to learn to use roads responsibly and education shapes the attitude and behaviours of

all road users. Education encompasses both direct education (primarily working with schools and targeted groups), but also includes the indirect education provided by publicity campaigns.

Encouragement is key to ensuring that wider stakeholders understand that road safety around schools is everyone's responsibility and that by playing their part they can help ensure children remain safe. Encouragement focuses on

changing people's habits by influencing how they travel to and from school by promoting alternative travel methods and creating incentives to persuade people to make the decision to use a different way of travelling. As with education, successful encouragement includes collaborative working between a number of groups including parents, teachers, children, Council officers, road users, school visitors, neighbouring businesses, community groups and peer groups.

behaviour change techniques. The support provided through education, encouragement and engineering is complemented by the enforcement of laws that are in place to maintain road safety around schools. Enforcement works to ensure that road users adhere to restrictions that are essential for the safe operation of the highway network, particularly driving at safe speeds and parking in appropriate places.

Engineering is used to make physical changes to the road environment to improve highway safety. Engineering does not just refer to reactive measures to address existing issues, it also relates to the planning of future developments or changes to existing school infrastructure to ensure projects effectively facilitate and encourage road safety around Knowsley schools.

In order to succeed the four priorities must work as a cohesive whole and targeted interventions should not be considered in isolation. All activities contained in this strategy's action plans are designed to ensure they are complementary to each other and considering the actions in this context will be vital to the various stakeholders responsible for implementing them. Partnership working and collaboration are central to this strategy; therefore, the four priorities are jointly owned by the Council and its partners, allowing stakeholders to work collaboratively to achieve the best outcomes for children.











Education remains vital to maintaining and improving road safety around schools

It is essential that everyone learns to use roads responsibly in order to ensure that people keep themselves and those around them safe. This is particularly important around schools, where lots of children and young people are often exposed to busy roads. Ensuring that these children and young people, along with their parents, carers and other

road users, understand the potential dangers and that they act considerately is central to keeping people around schools in Knowsley safe.

We are all responsible for educating each other about road safety around schools

Educating each other about keeping safe around schools and on the journey to and from school can

be delivered in many forms. It should begin at home with parents and carers ensuring that their children understand the need to act responsibly and sensibly when travelling to and from school, along with the serious risks of not doing so. Parents receive advice and resources from the Road Safety Team on how to educate their children on road safety issues by resources they receive from their health visitors. The Council's Road Safety Team offers a full programme of education to all Knowsley schools. In addition,

this education continues at school where teachers, Governors and other staff should ensure pupils and their parents or carers, visitors to their school and other road users travel to and from their site in a considerate way and park safely.

Knowsley Council and its partners continue to play an important role in educating school staff, their pupils and other road users about road safety around schools. The Council has a dedicated Road Safety Team that provides direct education, training and resources to schools, their pupils and other groups. The Road Safety Team also provides indirect education through targeted publicity campaigns, which are often linked to other regional or national campaigns. Parents are also encouraged to educate children on road safety issues through resources such as the child training assessment programme, which is sent to all year 1 pupils. The education that the Council's Road Safety Team delivers to pupils will provide them with transferable road safety knowledge and skills that will assist them wherever they go, not just when they are outside of schools.

Education is an ongoing priority

By behaving responsibly and safely Knowsley school children, their parents and carers along with visitors and other road users can influence each other and improve road safety around schools. Similarly schools can continue to educate pupils and their parents and carers by sharing their learning and resources from the Council's Road Safety Team, holding awareness raising events and developing their own locally owned approach to embedding road safety as a key part of the school day.

ANGEROUS AND SEL





Case Study

Knowsley Council Road Safety Team

Through its dedicated Road Safety Team, Knowsley Council offers schools a full programme of direct education, training and resources aimed at improving road safety awareness and knowledge of their pupils. The programme starts at pre-school level and there are various activities throughout the pupil's school life up to when they finish in year 11. The programme includes:

- Information and safety advice for parents of children starting primary school
- Scooter safety advice for Reception pupils
- Pedestrian training and assessments for pupils in Year 1, including training Teaching Assistants on how to do the assessments



- Bikeability training
- Be bright be seen importance of wearing appropriate clothing when walking and cycling
- Crash scene investigation and the causes of collisions
- Fast lane sessions preparation for transferring to secondary school
- Theatre productions for secondary school pupils on the danger of distractions
- Pre-driver training

Further details are available at:

www.knowsley.gov.uk/residents/roads or by contacting the Road Safety Team: Road.Safety@knowsley.gov.uk



Bikeability Level 3 Training

Bikeability training ensures that children of secondary school age feel comfortable and safe whilst cycling: an important way of increasing cycling levels in the future and encouraging safe school commuting on bike. Bikeability Level 3 builds on the knowledge gained in Levels 1 and 2 whilst at primary school and equips pupils with the skills for challenging roads and traffic situations such as busier streets, queuing traffic and complex junctions. It also includes planning routes for safe cycling and can be tailored as required, such as a route to school or responding to a pupil's additional needs.

The Liverpool City Region Road Safety Strategy commits to increasing the number of Bikeability places made available to Secondary School children.

Further details are available at www.bikeability.org.uk or by contacting the Road Safety Team Road.Safety@knowsley.gov.uk



The Decision

A powerful play commissioned by Knowsley Council's Road Safety Team encouraging young people to think more about the risks they take near roads. Set in a courtroom, the stimulating story surrounds the death of a young boy who was killed in a road collision when he walked into a road without looking. Pupils are asked to vote as a jury as to whether the driver was guilty or not guilty of causing the collision. The thought provoking performance encourages young people to think about how vulnerable they are and how easy it is to be distracted.





Priority One - Education

Action	Who?	When?
Raise awareness of road safety at home	Parents and carers	Ongoing
Continue to offer programme of education to all schools	KMBC - Road Safety Team	Ongoing on an annual basis
Provide training to Teaching Assistants to enable them to carry out pedestrian training assessments	KMBC - Road Safety Team and Schools	Ongoing on an annual basis
Provide and update online resources for schools, families, young people and other stakeholders	KMBC - Road Safety Team	Ongoing on an annual basis
Raise awareness of the Road Safety Around Schools Strategy with pupils	Schools and Governors	Ongoing
Ensure road safety is embedded within school culture	Schools and Governors	Ongoing
Provide regular updates regarding Road Safety Around Schools work	Schools and Governors	Ongoing on an annual basis
Assist in the delivery of Merseyside Road Safety Partnership's Child Pedestrian Action Plan	MRSP and KMBC Road Safety Team	Ongoing



Education remains vital to maintaining and improving road safety around schools





We all need some encouragement at times

With busy lives and competing responsibilities it can be easy to fall into a routine and forget to consider trying new ways of doing things. It can be just as easy to make small changes to our daily routines, our ways of working or the way we communicate with each other, there just needs to be a trigger or encouragement to make people think about it. In the context of this strategy encouragement is all about advising and persuading people to develop and implement new ways of working together to improve road safety knowledge and to reduce parking pressures around schools, which will subsequently improve road safety on journeys to and from school. This could include parents establishing a 'walking bus' schedule or simply committing to walking to school on a weekly basis.

It could also include locally designed initiatives across new and existing partnerships such as schools working with local businesses to develop a 'park and stride' scheme or Governors collaborating across an area to publicise road safety around schools. Many of the initiatives to encourage people to change how they travel to and from school will have health benefits as well as improving road safety.

The Council wants schools to make the most of the excellent educational programme on offer via the Road Safety Team; to encourage this an award scheme will be developed. This will mean that the more activities schools participate in and the more resources they distribute the better chance the school will have in achieving a Gold standard for their road safety efforts.

Encouragement to create a culture of safety

Our most creative and effective ideas come about when we work together in partnership. Encouragement is also about sharing our thoughts and ideas, taking responsibility for our actions and providing support to one another to maintain and improve road safety around Knowsley schools. As with education, encouragement is infectious and will be an important way of ensuring that wider stakeholders understand road safety around schools is everyone's responsibility.

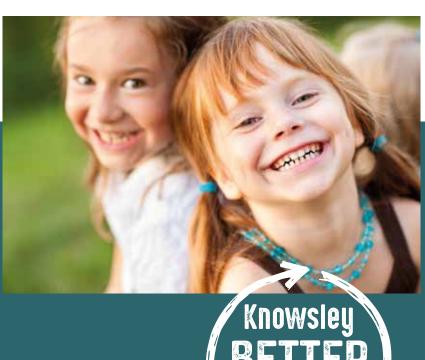




--- Case Study

Knowsley Better Together

Knowsley Better Together is about everyone playing their part to achieve more. By pooling resources and expertise we know that we will have a greater impact. The Council has responded to this in its latest Corporate Plan, which outlines "what" the Council hopes to achieve in the coming years and also describes how it needs to work to get things done. For further details about Knowsley Better Together, please refer to Section 8.



Knowsley BETTER TOGETHER

#KnowsleyBetterTogether



Case Study

Park and Stride

Due to the high demand for parking outside of schools, which can disrupt traffic flow and compromise highway safety it can be beneficial to encourage people to park away from the school and complete their journey on foot. Park and stride schemes involve schools and a neighbouring businesses or facilities working together to allow vehicles to park relatively close to school but in an off road car park and walk the final part of the journey to school. Park and stride schemes improve highway safety adjacent to the school, as well as providing health benefits to those children who participate. Places that can be used for park and stride schemes include churches, leisure centres and public houses.





Priority Two - Encouragement

Action	Who?	When?
Review and update School Travel Plan	Schools and Governors	Ongoing on an annual basis
Raise awareness of Road Safety Around Schools strategy with parents	Schools and Governors	Ongoing
Work with neighbours (i.e. churches, businesses) to explore park and stride schemes	Schools and Governors	Ongoing
Share best practice and innovation with each other	All partners	Ongoing
Work in partnership to develop an incentive scheme for schools to encourage better participation in road safety activities	Road Safety Team, Schools and Governors	Scheme to start in September 2018
Behave appropriately and be a good role model	Young People, Parents, carers and visitors	Ongoing
Explore innovative ways to encourage and incentivise sustainable travel to and from school	Schools and Governors	Ongoing









Enforcement is concerned with ensuring that road users adhere to restrictions that are essential for the safety of pedestrians and road users, particularly enforcing safe parking measures and vehicle speed around schools.

Who is responsible for enforcement?

The police are the main enforcement agency for motoring offences, although the Council employ Civil Enforcement Officers to enforce certain parking offences.

Merseyside police via the MRSP undertake regular enforcement of a number of motoring offences including speeding vehicles, using a mobile phone whilst driving, driving without a seatbelt and driving too close to a cyclist. Enforcement is targeted to those areas where there is a history of collisions and road safety concerns; it is the responsibility of the Council to advise the police on these locations.

On the majority of police enforcement operations members of the Council's Road Safety Team also attend to engage with members of the public to educate them on a variety of road safety issues.

Civil Parking Enforcement

Whilst the police are the main enforcement agency for the majority of motoring offences, Civil Enforcement Officers also make a significant

contribution to road safety through the enforcement of all parking related restrictions. In 2015 Knowsley Council introduced Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) to take over the responsibility of enforcing parking restrictions from the police; this gave the Council more flexibility in determining where enforcement takes place. Due to the high demand for parking adjacent to schools the Civil Enforcement Officers have an important role in keeping children and young people safe around schools. The Civil Enforcement Officers have an enforcement programme to ensure that all schools in the Borough are visited on a regular basis. Enforcement is undertaken at two schools each morning and two schools each afternoon. Every school is enforced at least once a month; however. those schools where there is a known parking problem receive more visits. The Civil Enforcement Officers issue Penalty Charge Notices to vehicles parked in contravention of parking restrictions, as well as giving advice to motorists and moving vehicles along if necessary.

It remains the responsibility of the police to enforce obstructive parking such as blocking driveways or footways and vehicles parking on zig-zag markings on the approach to schools and zebra crossings. Police enforcement of these offences is usually undertaken at the request of the Council's Highways Team following the receipt of concerns raised by stakeholders.

A combined approach to enforcement between police and Civil Enforcement Officers has proved successful at various schools in the Borough, and this combined approach has extended to education and further engagement of pupils and teachers, along with the Road Safety Team.

Any requests for enforcement of any motoring or parking offences should be made via www.knowsley.gov.uk/residents/roads





Case Study

Joint Enforcement Operation

The Council's Civil Enforcement Officers along with Liverpool Council Civil Enforcement Officers, Council officers, partner agencies, Merseyside police and Liverpool Council officers, carried out a joint operation at St Margaret Marys Junior School in response to concerns over illegal parking.

Liverpool's CEOs issued a number of Penalty Charge Notices and Merseyside Police issued tickets for parking on the zig-zag



markings on the approach to a signalised crossing and also for use of a mobile phone whilst driving. They also administered two negative breath tests and gave out lots of advice. A number of registrations were noted (mostly parked across driveways) to send warning letters to owners who were not present with their vehicles on the day. Knowsley Council's Civil Enforcement Officers kept Adcote Close and Mayfair Avenue clear of non-residential parking.

Priority Three - Enforcement

Action	Who?	When?
Continue to provide parking enforcement based on a monthly programmed approach	Civil Enforcement Officers	Monthly
Ensure enforcement rules and guidance are widely communicated	Civil Enforcement Officers, Schools and Governors	Ongoing
Provide traffic enforcement support where necessary	Merseyside Police	Ongoing
Work together to explore best practice in road safety and parking enforcement adjacent to schools	Schools, Governors, Civil Enforcement Officers and Merseyside Police	Ongoing



Increasing safety through infrastructure improvements

As noted in the Liverpool City Region Road Safety Strategy, improving physical infrastructure through road engineering is an effective way of reducing road safety risks to all road users. A wide range of examples including improvements to the road layout, street lighting, highway signing, traffic

signal control, junction improvements and calming features have all played a part in reducing risk and casualties across the Liverpool City Region's roads, including a number in Knowsley. Improvements to physical infrastructure can enhance road safety around schools, whilst often benefitting neighbouring communities and businesses.

Thinking ahead

Engineering considerations are not solely focused on addressing existing issues and it is equally important to remember that the planning, design and build of new highways and housing developments in Knowsley all treat road safety and access as a key priority. In recent years, significant additional pedestrian and cycle infrastructure has

been introduced across the Liverpool City Region through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund and Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package, including a number of projects that improve connectivity to and from Knowsley schools.

Locally designed and owned

In this strategy, we have expanded the traditional road safety definition of engineering to include schools exploring new ways to utilise their campus estate to best facilitate road safety around their school. This could include measures such as designating certain areas within existing staff or visitor car parks as dedicated 'drop off' zones for parents or carers bringing children to school or providing supervised 'waiting areas' for children to safely wait for their bus or coach home, away from busy roads.





Road Safety Assessment

Should concerns over road safety be raised by stakeholders the Council's Highways Team will investigate the issue and provide an appropriate response. These investigations review the road layout, behaviour of road users and the collision history.

A number of investigations have taken place around Knowsley schools, which have resulted in highway improvement works being undertaken. In addition the Council's Highways Team review all collisions within the Borough on an annual basis to identify areas where collisions are occurring and will produce a programme of highway improvement works accordingly.



School Crossing Review

In addition to undertaking physical engineering measures the Council's Highways Team also undertake a review of the school crossing patrols every two years to ensure that resources are allocated to the appropriate locations. As part of the review, traffic and pedestrian surveys are undertaken at all existing school crossing patrol sites and at any sites where a request for a new school crossing patrol has been received. The results of the survey are then analysed to ensure that pedestrian and traffic flows are within the parameters provided by Road Safety Great Britain School Crossing Patrol Service Guidelines that require a school crossing patrol to be provided.

Priority Four - Engineering

Action	Who?	When?
Undertake School Crossing Patrol Review	KMBC - Road Highways Team	Financial Year 18/19
Continue the co-ordinated approach to planning for new or expanding school sites	KMBC - Planning and Asset Management Team	Ongoing
Explore relevant funding opportunities for infrastructure improvements	KMBC, School and Governors	Ongoing
Explore new ways to maximise estate and physical assets	Schools and Governors	Ongoing
Ensure all pupils and visitors can safely enter and leave the school	Schools and Governors	Ongoing
Undertake an annual review of collision data to produce a programme of local highway safety schemes	KMBC - Road Highways Team	Annually
Continue to introduce physical engineering measures to improve road safety to those locations where there is a history of collisions	KMBC - Road Highways Team	Annually



What is Knowsley Better Together?

Knowsley Better Together embodies the Council's approach to working with partners, residents and communities, local businesses, and the voluntary sector to achieve our shared outcomes. Put simply, Knowsley Better Together is about everyone playing their part to achieve more.

Knowsley Better Together is an opportunity for the Council to refresh its relationship with partners so everyone can drive forward together, to achieve our shared outcomes. Knowsley Better Together therefore brings to life a new approach to delivering services, paving the way for more closely joined up working by using resources more wisely and in turn reducing duplication.

How do we do this?

The Council has responded to this in its new Corporate Plan. The plan outlines "what" the Council hopes to achieve in the coming years, and also describes "how" it needs to work to get things done, set out in the following principles which highlight how we will:

- Be a strong community leader and always champion Knowsley;
- Build better partnerships and work with others co-operatively to improve Knowsley;
- Listen to the community when making decisions;
- Spend locally, invest locally and recruit locally to build social value;
- Help people to be independent, doing more for themselves and each other;
- Prevent problems occurring or stop them getting worse; and
- Use the best way of delivering services that leads to improved outcomes for Knowsley.

How does this work in practice?

Practically, this will be achieved through the development of a series of informal deals, which will be co-produced and will focus on what all stakeholders will do to achieve our shared goals. The Road Safety around Schools Strategy uses the Knowsley Better Together principles to strengthen partnerships, creating a safe environment for children and young people.

What does this mean for Road Safety around Schools?

Knowsley Partnership and Merseyside Road Safety Partnership, along with school teachers, governors and leadership teams, parents, drivers and children, all play an integral role in delivering safe outcomes for Knowsley's children. The deal developed as part of this strategy will therefore involve all of those partners and will be a way of ensuring that all stakeholders play their part in helping to deliver the four priorities outlined in the strategy.





Better Together Deal - Road Safety Around Schools

Knowsley Council and its partners will agree to	Knowsley schools will agree to	Parents and carers of Knowsley school children will agree to	
continue to offer programme of road safety education to all schools	raise awareness of Road Safety Around Schools strategy with pupils	act considerately when travelling to and from school	
work with teachers, teaching assistants and other school staff to	and parents	consider the most sustainable way	
carry out the Pedestrian Training Scheme	ensure road safety is embedded within school culture	of travelling to and from school	
develop online materials for schools, families, young people and other stakeholders	provide regular updates regarding their Road Safety Around Schools work	raise awareness of road safety at home	
work in partnership to develop the Bronze, Silver, Gold scheme for Road Safety Around Schools	review and update their School Travel Plans	ensure their children act considerately and safely when travelling to and from school	
complete School Crossing Patrol Review	work with their neighbours (i.e churches, businesses) to explore	work with schools and other parents/carers to explore sustainable	
continue to review highway safety	park and stride schemes	travel opportunities (i.e. walking bus schemes)	
concerns and invest in highway safety improvements as appropriate	ensure all children, parents and	Continuo	
continue to undertake enforcement of motoring and parking offences	explore new ways to maximise their		
continue the co-ordinated approach to planning for new or expanding school sites	estate and physical assets to facilitate road safety around their school		



