

Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee

AGENDA

Notice of Meeting:

A meeting of the Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee will be held on:

Date: Tuesday 9 September 2025
Time: 9.30am
Venue: Wakanui Room, Te Whare Whatakere
2 Baring Square East, Ashburton

ADC Membership

Cr Liz McMillan (Chair)

Cr Phill Hooper

Cr Richard Wilson

Mayor Neil Brown (ex-officio)

AGENDA

1	Apologies	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- John Skevington (Automobile Association)- Neil Simons (Principals Association)	
2	Notification of Extraordinary Business	
3	Confirmation of Minutes	3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 3 June 2025	
4	Correspondence	
	Nil.	
5	Reports	
5.1	Ashburton District Road Safety	5
5.2	FENZ	18
5.3	ACADS	25
5.4	Automobile Association	27
5.5	Waka Kotahi/NZTA	28
5.6	Ia Ara Aotearoa	30
5.7	NZ Police	32
5.8	Safer Communities Ashburton	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Ashburton Bike Skills park has received \$75k from the Mid and South Canterbury Community Trust towards the construction of the facility.	
6	Next Meeting Date	
	Tuesday 9 December 2025, 9.30am	

Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee Minutes



Date: 3 June 2025
Venue: Wakanui Room, Te Whare Whakaterere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton
Time: 9:30am

1 Welcome and Apologies

That apologies for absence be received from Mayor Neil Brown, Cr Richard Wilson, Stephanie Poole (ACADS), Steve Burgerhout (NZ Police), Lesley Symington (Safer Mid Canterbury), Neil Simons (Principal Association), Chris Chambers (NZTA), Lucy Mehrrens (Road Safety Sth Canterbury)

Hooper/Crouchley

Carried

Present:

Liz McMillan	ADC Deputy Mayor (Chair)	John Skevington	Automobile Association
Phill Hooper	ADC Councillor	James Long	NZTA
Craig Chambers	FENZ	Shane Cochrane	NZ Police
Dan Farr	FENZ	Jim Crouchley	Ia Ara Aotearoa/Transporting NZ

In attendance:

Mark Chamberlain	Roading Manager	Carol McAtamney	Governance Support Officer
Georgie Wilson	Road and Safety Technician		

2 Notification of Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton District Road Safety Coordinating Committee meeting held on 4 March 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/ Hooper

Carried

4 Correspondence

Nil.

5 Reports/Agency Updates

5.1 Ashburton District Road Safety

- The Girls Can Do Maintenance event was well attended. It is planned to host another event later in the year.
- CoDriVR programme will be reviewed at the end of June, reports show that usage levels are low.

5.2 Safer Ashburton

- Construction of the Bike Skills park is scheduled to start at the end of the year subject to funding being secured.

5.3 Ashburton Principals Association

- The Rooding team are arranging to meet with the Principal of Netherby school to discuss the possibility of islands being installed at their main pedestrian crossings.

- The Methven Community Board are to submit a proposal in support of the Methven School's request regarding the installation of an additional pedestrian crossing on the Methven Chertsey Road (near the new Elderly Residential facility).
- The Roding team are having surface repair work (eg: water cutting to remove surplus binder) costed to be undertaken on Longbeach Road adjacent to the school in the next financial year.

5.4 ACADS

- Currently investigating collaborating with organisations with a view to reduce drink driving in our region.

5.5 FENZ

- A report detailing road incident statistics was tabled and worked through.
 - 229 crashes recorded for Mid/South Canterbury compared to 225 last year.
 - Ashburton accounts for approximately 30% of data of the report.

NZ Police

- A query was made as to what the expected response times from the Roding Contractors when responding to incident and emergency events on the roading network. This will be looked into and a response will be circulated to members.
- It was noted that one of the 30km electronic speed enforcement signs outside Longbeach School was not operating. This was due to a battery fault and has now been rectified.

Waka Kotahi/NZTA

- Stop signs have been installed on both sides of the Thomsons Track intersection. Some widening and curbing is also to be undertaken.
- Speed limits over the Rakaia bridge and overhead bridge have returned to 100.
- The Rakaia township speed limit has reverted to 70 and consultation is currently being undertaken on whether it should return to 50. An outcome is expected within a few weeks.
- NZTA have taken over speed camera operations

Ia Ara Aotearoa/Transporting NZ

- Some processing plants are no longer allowing stock trucks to empty their effluent tanks when delivering stock. This is causing issues for the trucks as they are then driving with full effluent tanks which can cause spillage on the roading network.
- Currently undertaking negotiations with processing plants/sale yards etc to allow trucks to unload.

Automobile Association

- An additional 2,500 cycle lights have been ordered.
- Approximately 4k light sets have been distributed thought the South Island.
- The Road Safety Committee for the AA national council that was established to advise and make recommendations to the Government has its final meeting this week.
- It was reported that there are currently no wait times for drivers licence tests.

6 Next Meeting

The next meeting date is Tuesday 9 September 2025 at 9.30am.

John Skevington (Automobile Association) registered his apology

Meeting closed at 10.38am



ASHBURTON DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

September 2025

Ashburton Road Safety Action Plan Reporting – September 2025

Promotion

Programme	Organisation	Timeframe	Progress
Staying Safe	Age Concern	2025	Staying Safe course is booked in for Friday 6 th September 2025. This has been advertised in the Courier. Dates for 2026 to be confirmed.
Mobility Scooter Course	Greypower	Thursday 16 October	Grey Power reached out in June and would like to host a mobility scooter course in Ashburton, they asked for the Council to come on board. We have now locked in a date which will be Thursday 16 th October at the Ashburton RSA.
Driver Reviver	AMI/Ashburton District Council	Friday 18 July	We held a Driver Reviver event on Friday 18 th July at the Ashburton Domain layby on SH1. The purpose of this event was to remind drivers to take a break while travelling on long journeys. Numerous local organisations were involved such as Ashburton Community Alcohol and Drug Services, St. John, Tango Coffee, NZ Police, Fire and Emergency NZ and Plunket. Spraymarks Ashburton also did the traffic management. There was a good turnout and the event was well advertised.
Road Patrol	Ashburton District Council/Schools	Friday 31 October	In collaboration with EA Networks, we will be hosting an end of year pool party for students who participate in Road Patrol, to thank them for their time to make our roads safer. This event will be held from 4 – 7pm. Currently in the process of confirming finer details.
Rural Schools	Ashburton District Council/HEB Construction	July 2025	Recently collaborated with our maintenance contractor HEB Construction to get some new high visibility vests for primary school children that catch the school bus in our rural areas – we distributed 270 vests to various schools. These were Rakaia, Dorie, Hinds, Carew/Peel Forest, Chertsey and Mayfield.
RYDA	Road Safety Education	2025/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All courses for 2025 are complete. - Ashburton College booked in for Tuesday 28th April 2026. - Mt. Hutt College is still to confirm a date for 2026.

			- Ashburton Christian School is now on the RYDA programme for 2026 – they have been unable to attend previously due to financial implications. They will be bringing Year 12/13 students on a two yearly cycle.
Rail Safety Week	Ashburton District Council/Kiwirail	11 – 17 August 2025	We had a library display set up in the childrens area with a colouring in competition – entries go in the draw to win a family pass to EA Networks Centre. On the Wednesday morning, we also went down to the Walnut Avenue/East Street level crossing from 8:30 – 9am to hand out chocolate and Kiwirail fliers to the students using the level crossing correctly.
Radio promotions	ADC/TDC/WDC	2025/2026	The radio promotions have been renewed for another year – we have contributed \$4,000 towards this alongside Timaru District Council and Waitaki District Council.
Students Against Dangerous Driving	Students Against Dangerous Driving	Ongoing	Students active in schools. The Programme Delivery Lead Lauren Robinson will be holding term 3 workshops in August/September.
CoDriVR	Gfactor	Ongoing	A survey was sent out to simulator locations around Mid and South Canterbury to gather feedback on the machines. Feedback was limited but extremely useful. Gfactor are currently working on a second generation of VR driver education based on learnings from the Pilot Programme simulators. The new approach will use headset only experiences and Gfactor will be in touch when the first models are available to schools/organisations. Reports attached.
Community Police Officer	NZ Police	2025	Concerns around the NZ Police restructure as they will be losing the current School Community Officer Sean Patterson. Police have advised that some cover will come from Timaru but this won't be consistent.

Infrastructure & Management

Programme	Organisation	Timeframe	Progress
Safety Management			
Delineation	Ashburton District Council	Ongoing	The 2025/2026 sites have been programmed and are ready to be dispatched to the maintenance contractor. The selection of sites is based off crash history and field staff/driver observation.
Intersection Improvements	Ashburton District Council	Ongoing	Some intersections in the district will be getting upgrades (signage, line marking) McMurdo Street/Wilkin Street and Grahams Road/Gartartan Road have been upgraded and/or programmed.
Safety Projects			
Intersection Upgrades	NZTA	Complete	Intersection improvements have been made to Thompsons Track and SH77 (Ashburton to Methven)

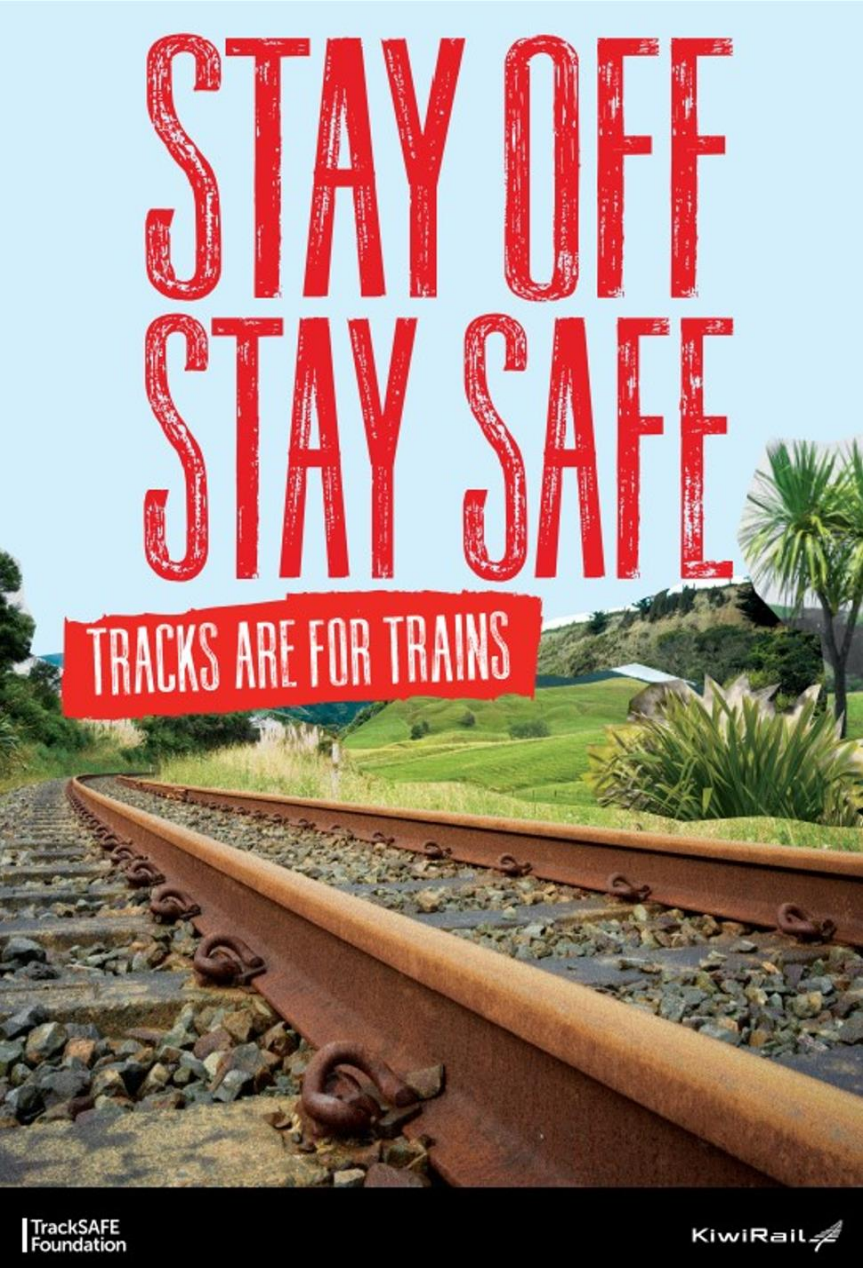
School vests delivery L2R: Georgie Wilson from Ashburton District Council, Beth Scannell from HEB Construction, students from Chertsey School and Principal Claire Maria.



AMI Driver Reviver L2R: Nicola Walker from St. John, Steph Poole from Ashburton Community Alcohol and Drug Services, Danni Thomas from Plunket, Georgie Wilson from Ashburton District Council, Gary Rennie from AMI with X2 volunteers and Dan Farr from Fire and Emergency New Zealand.



Rail Safety Week Campaign 2025



CoDriVR - Usage

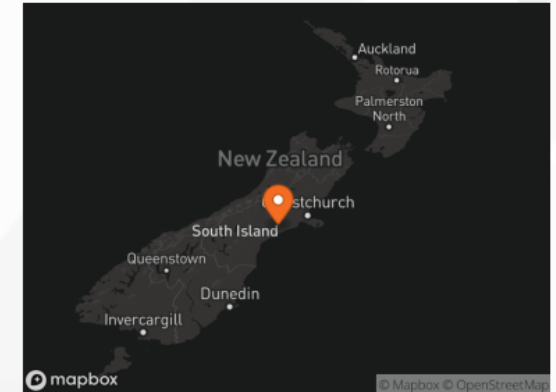


System Information

Total Units in Operation	1
Software Version	v1.3
Hardware Version	v1.3
Data Range	01/04/2025 - 30/04/2025

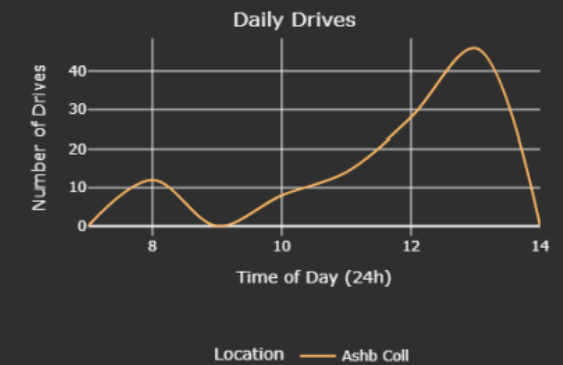
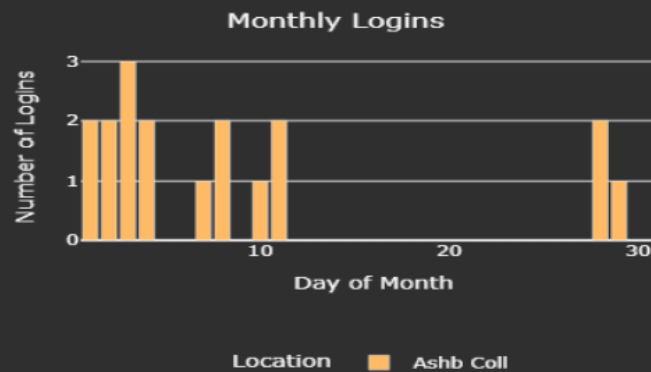
Drive Experiences

Tutorial
Intersections
Cornering



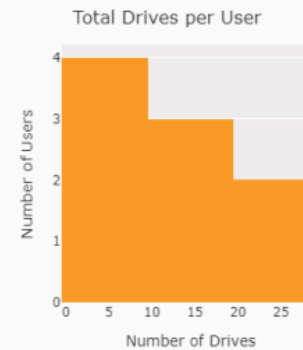
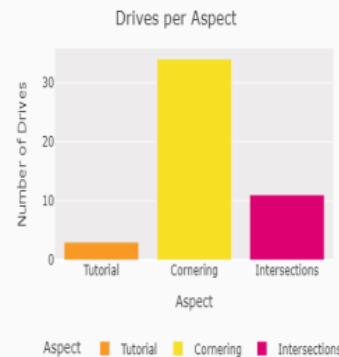
Account Activity

Number of Users Enrolled	1597
Total Logins (Estimate)	18
Total Active Users (Estimate)	9
Login Duration (Avg.)	8min 13s
Total Number of Drives	108
Total Drives per User (Avg.)	12

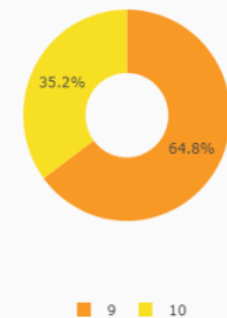


Drive Statistics

Drives per Session (Avg.)	6
Drive Duration (Avg.)	1min 15s
- in Tutorial (Avg.)	3min 2s
- in Cornering (Avg.)	1min 11s
- in Intersections (Avg.)	2min 13s



Drives by Year Group



CoDriVR - Usage

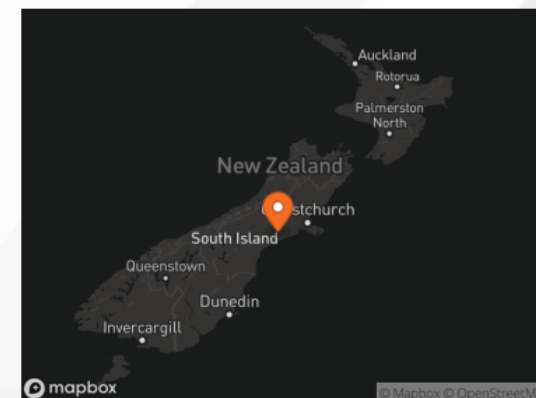


System Information

Total Units in Operation	1
Software Version	v1.3
Hardware Version	v1.3
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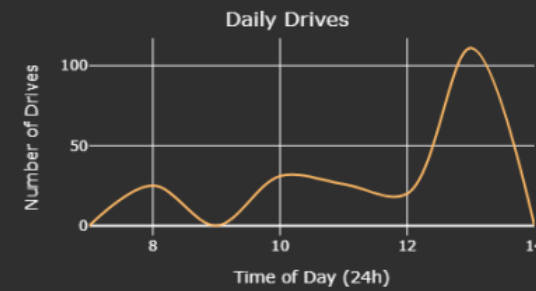
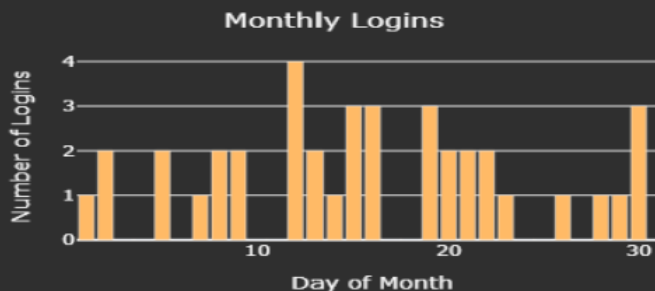
Drive Experiences

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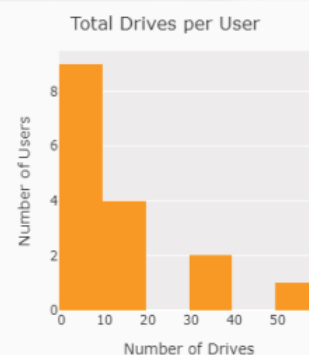
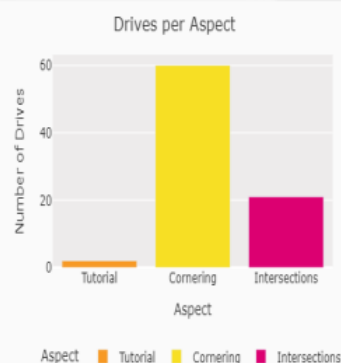
Account Activity

Number of Users Enrolled	1597
Total Logins (Estimate)	39
Total Active Users (Estimate)	16
Login Duration (Avg.)	9min 31s
Total Number of Drives	213
Total Drives per User (Avg.)	13

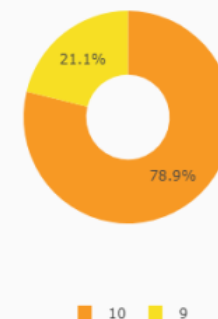


Drive Statistics

Drives per Session (Avg.)	5
Drive Duration (Avg.)	1min 11s
- in Tutorial (Avg.)	2min 41s
- in Cornering (Avg.)	58s
- in Intersections (Avg.)	2min 17s



Drives by Year Group



CoDriVR - Usage

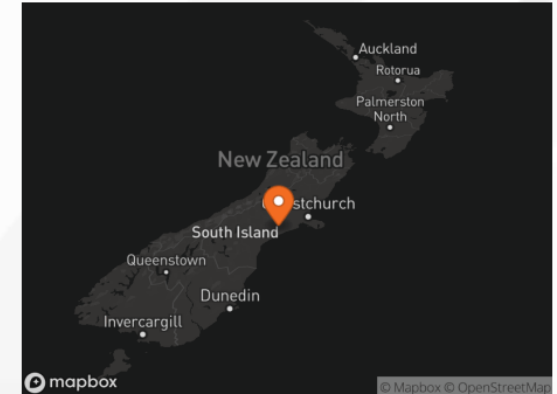


System Information

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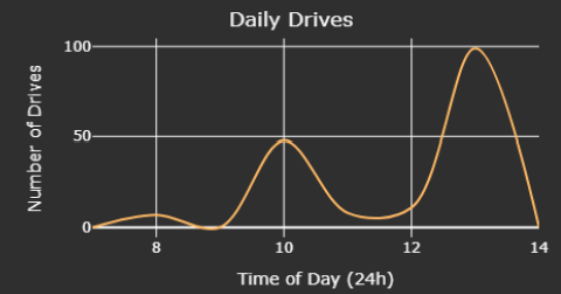
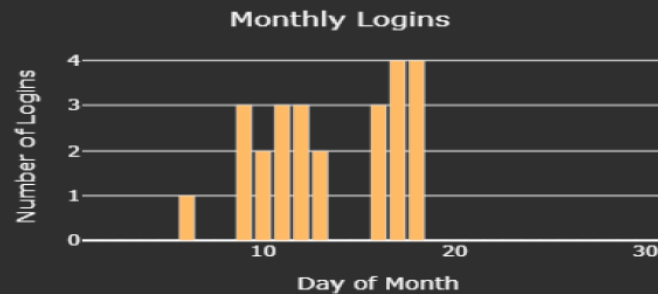
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Account Activity

Number of Users Enrolled	1597
Total Logins (Estimate)	25
Total Active Users (Estimate)	10
Login Duration (Avg.)	10min 7s
Total Number of Drives	173
Total Drives per User (Avg.)	17

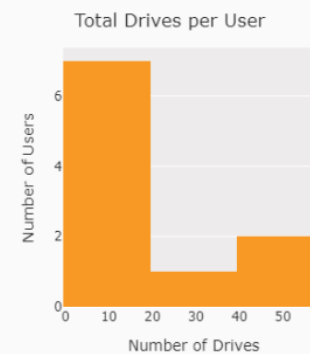
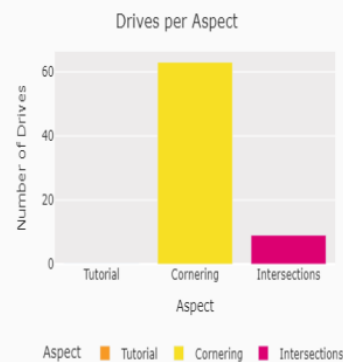


Location Ashb Coll

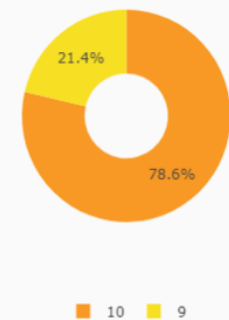
Location Ashb Coll

Drive Statistics

Drives per Session (Avg.)	6
Drive Duration (Avg.)	1min 1s
- in Tutorial (Avg.)	0s
- in Cornering (Avg.)	50s
- in Intersections (Avg.)	2min 10s



Drives by Year Group



CoDriVR - Usage

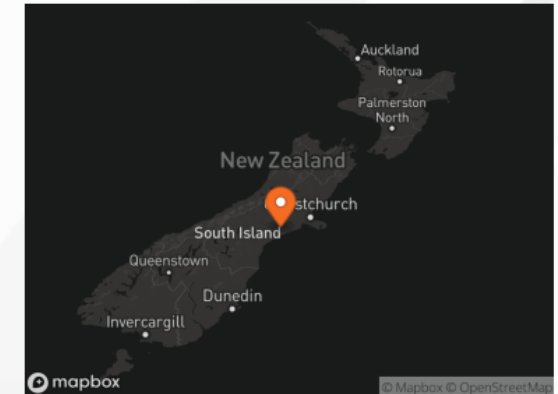


System Information

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Hardware Version	v1.3
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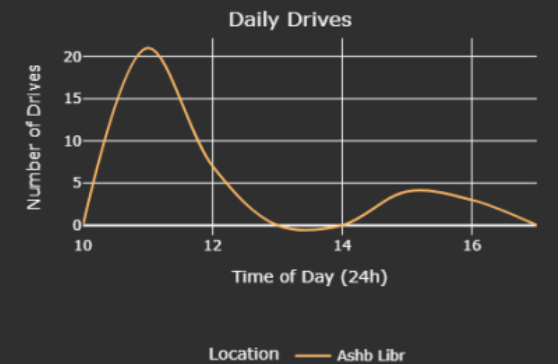
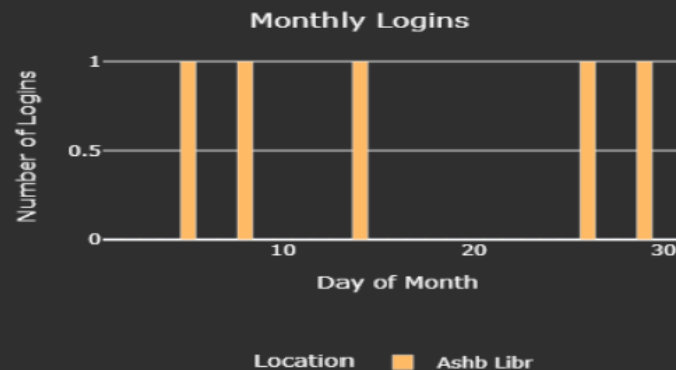
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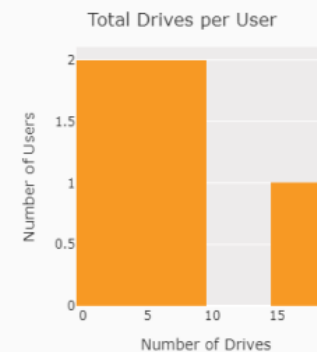
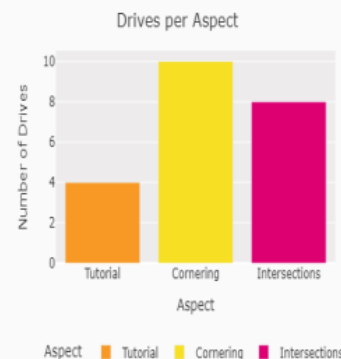
Account Activity

Number of Users Enrolled	1000
Total Logins (Estimate)	5
Total Active Users (Estimate)	5
Login Duration (Avg.)	18min 19s
Total Number of Drives	35
Total Drives per User (Avg.)	7



Drive Statistics

Drives per Session (Avg.)	7
Drive Duration (Avg.)	2min 19s
- in Tutorial (Avg.)	2min 27s
- in Cornering (Avg.)	2min 37s
- in Intersections (Avg.)	2min 13s



CoDriVR - Usage

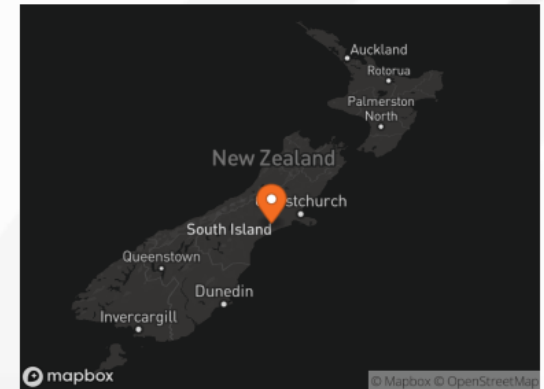


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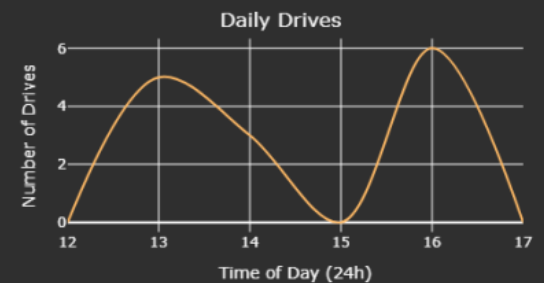
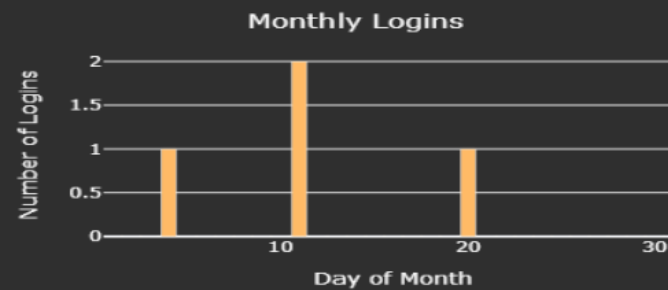
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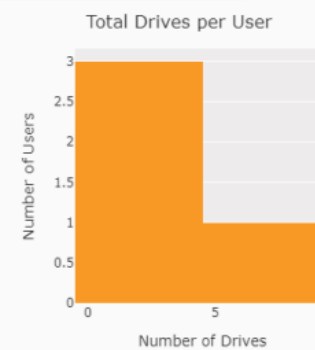
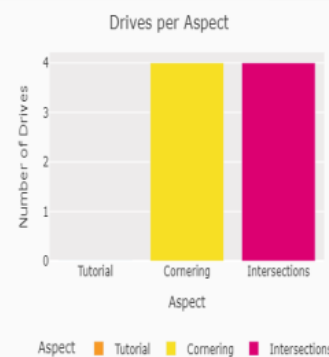
Account Activity

Number of Users Enrolled	1000
Total Logins (Estimate)	4
Total Active Users (Estimate)	4
Login Duration (Avg.)	3min 5s
Total Number of Drives	14
Total Drives per User (Avg.)	3



Drive Statistics

Drives per Session (Avg.)	3
Drive Duration (Avg.)	1min 38s
- in Tutorial (Avg.)	0s
- in Cornering (Avg.)	1min 28s
- in Intersections (Avg.)	2min 11s



CoDriVR - Usage

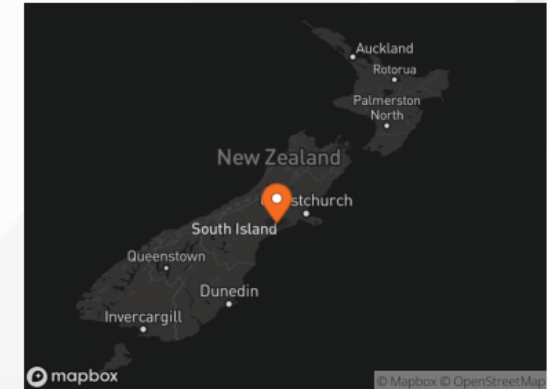


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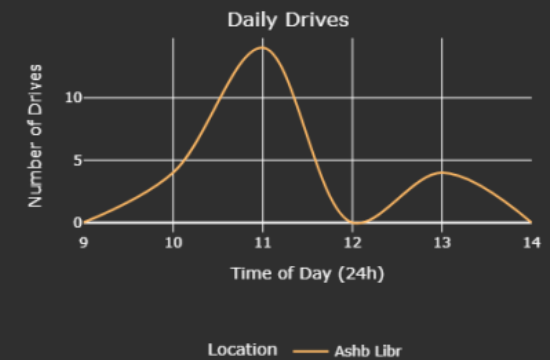
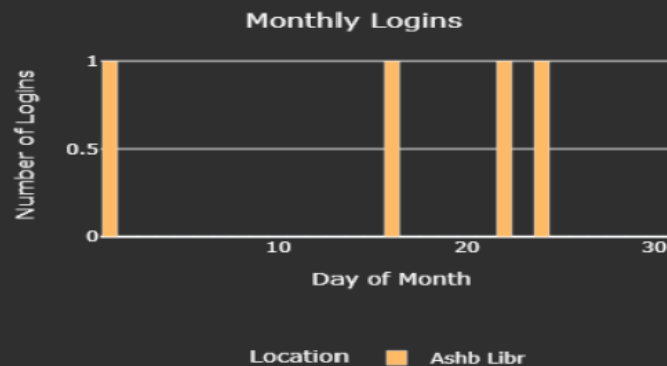
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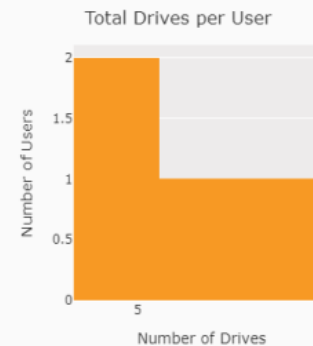
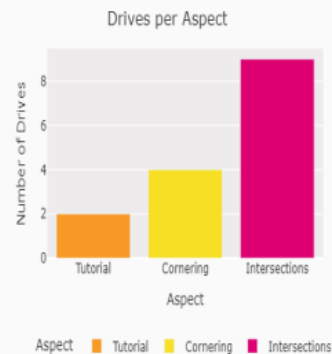
Account Activity

Number of Users Enrolled	1000
Total Logins (Estimate)	4
Total Active Users (Estimate)	4
Login Duration (Avg.)	9min 5s
Total Number of Drives	22
Total Drives per User (Avg.)	5



Drive Statistics

Drives per Session (Avg.)	5
Drive Duration (Avg.)	2min 10s
- in Tutorial (Avg.)	4min 12s
- in Cornering (Avg.)	1min 25s
- in Intersections (Avg.)	2min 33s





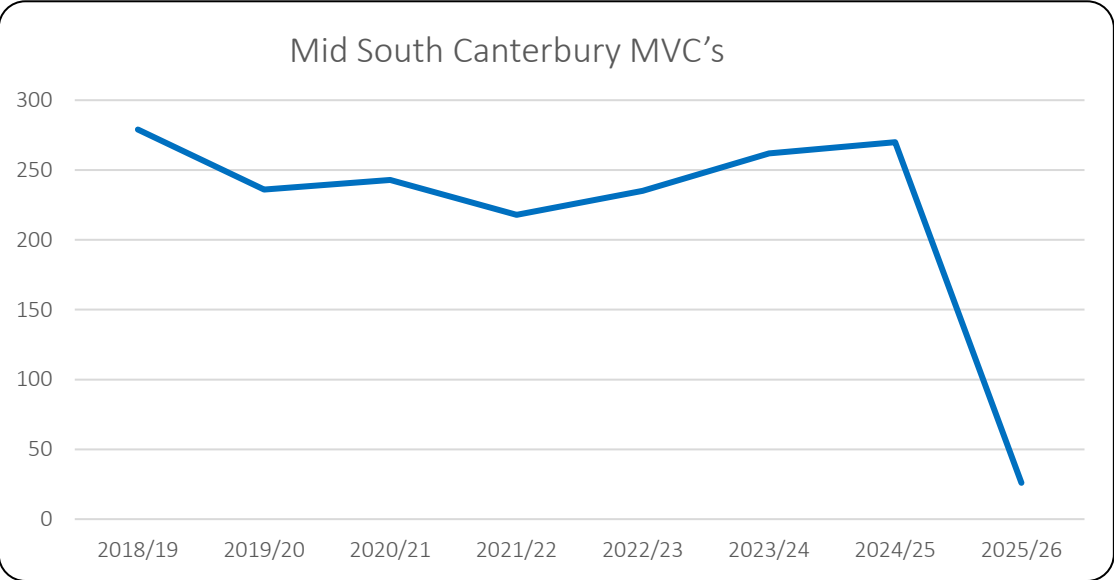
Mid-South Canterbury MVC Stats

Ashburton, Mackenzie, Timaru and Waimate District

Motor Vehicle Crash Key Insights

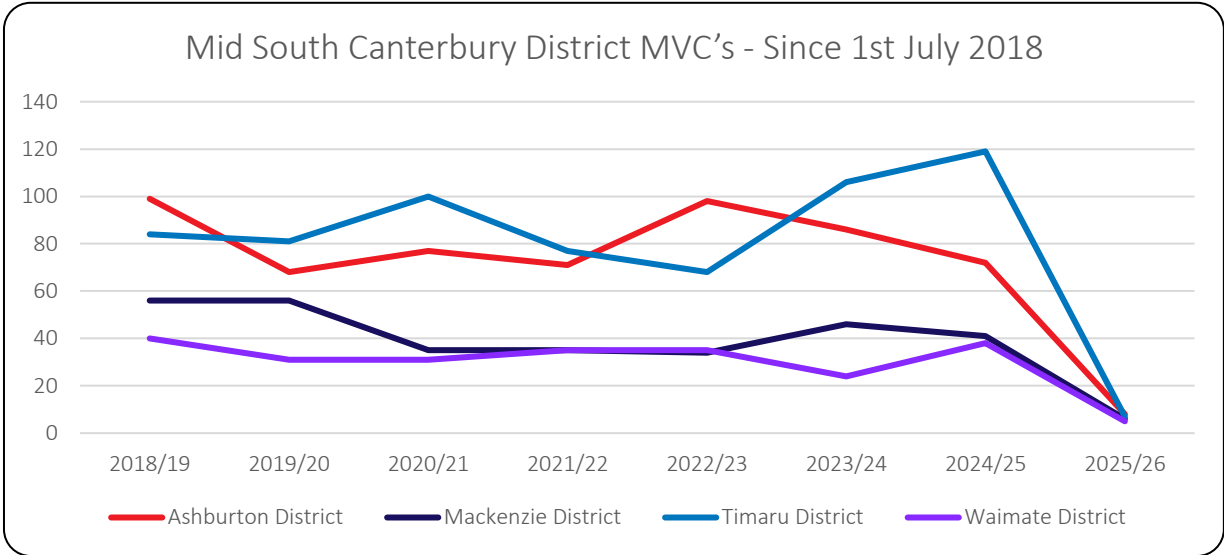
Overall Trend

- **Peak and Dip:** MVCs peaked in **2018/19** (279 incidents) and reached their lowest in **2021/22** (218 incidents).
- **Recent Uptick:** There's a noticeable rise again in **2024/25** (270 incidents).
- **Partial Year Caveat:** The **2025/26** data only includes incidents from **1 July 2025**, so the low number (26) is expected and not indicative of a trend.
- **Average:** The average is **249 MVCs per year**.



District Comparison

- **Timaru** stands out with the **highest number of MVCs**, contributing **36%** of the total across all years.
- **Ashburton** and **Waimate** show moderate and relatively stable numbers.
- **Mackenzie** has the **lowest overall count**, but with some year-to-year variability.



MVC Patterns by Time, Day and Season



Daytime incidents: 1,065 (60%)

Nighttime incidents: 704 (40%)

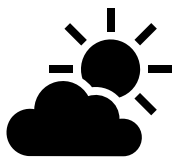
Insight: Most MVCs occur during the day, possibly due to higher traffic volumes.



Weekdays (Mon–Fri): 1,220 (69%)

Weekends (Sat–Sun): 549 (31%)

Insight: Crashes are more frequent on weekdays, likely linked to commuting and work-related travel. While **weekdays collectively** account for more crashes (69%), **Saturday alone** is the **single day with the most crashes**.



Winter: 508 (29%) – highest

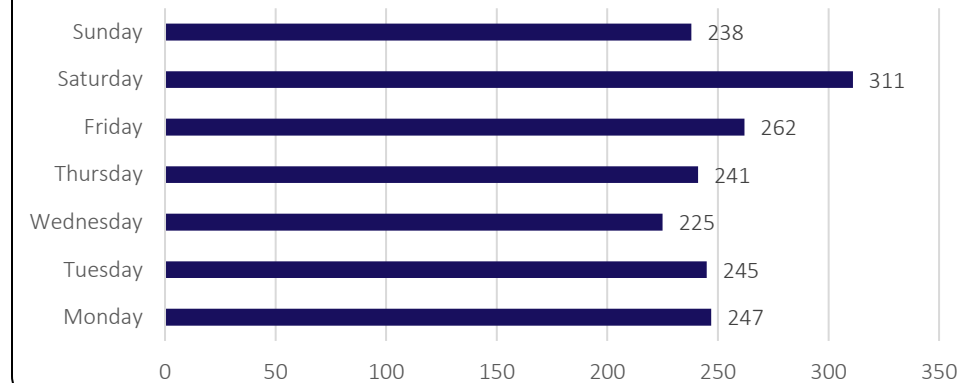
Summer: 454 (26%)

Autumn: 440 (25%)

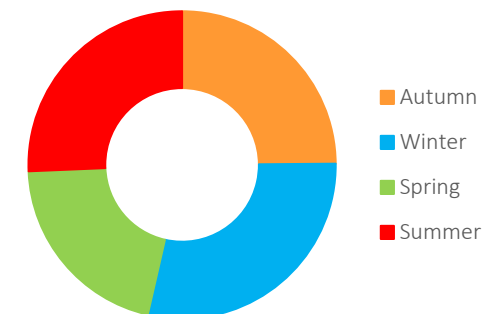
Spring: 367 (21%)

Insight: Winter has the highest crash rate, possibly due to weather conditions and reduced visibility.

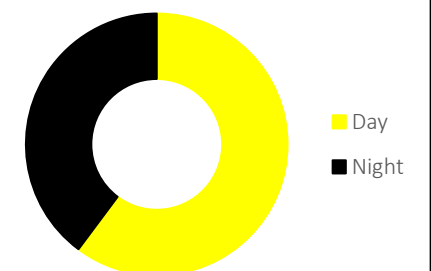
Mid South Canterbury MVC By Day of Week - since 1st July 2018



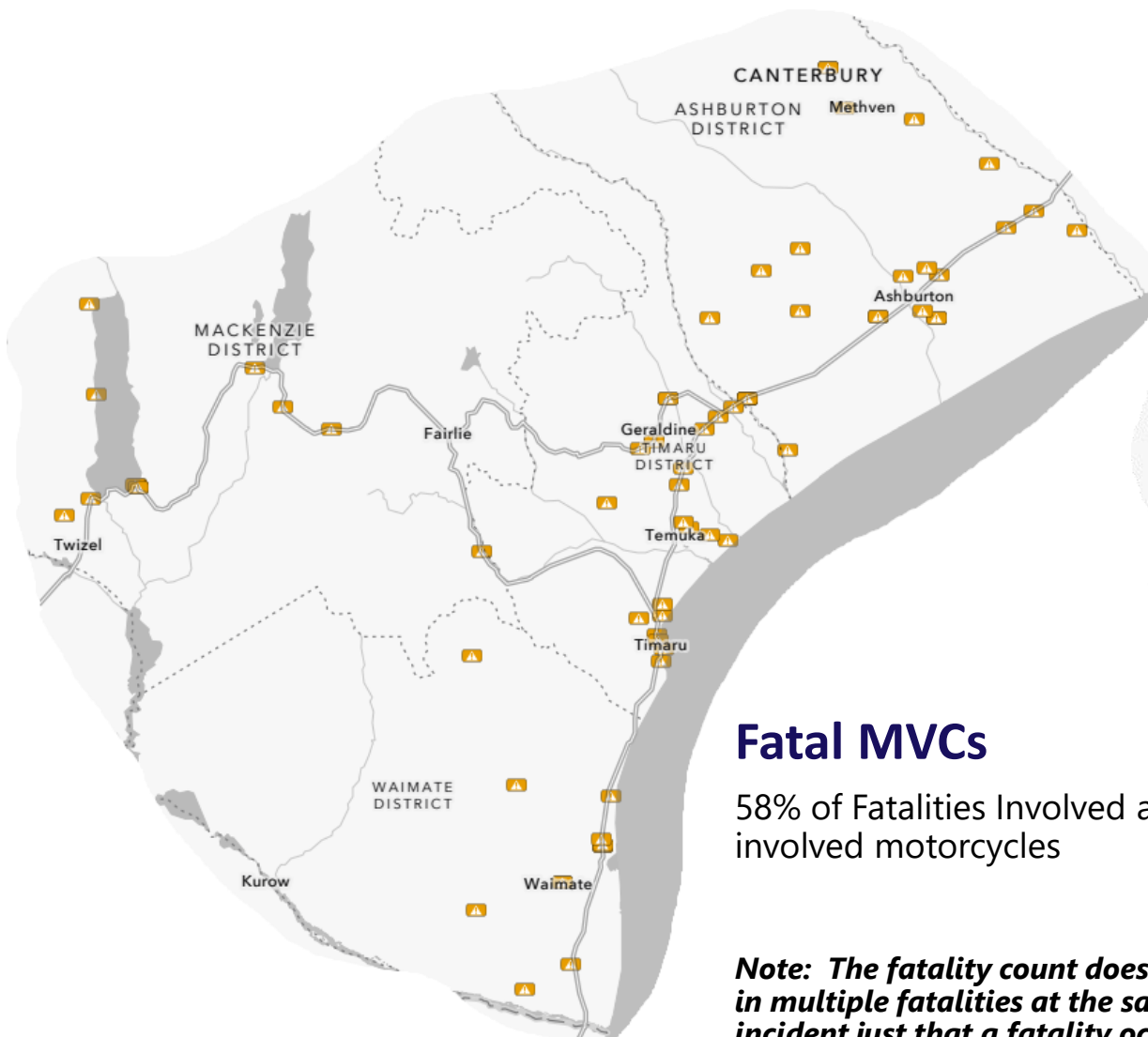
Mid South Canterbury MVC By Season - since 1st July 2018



Mid South Canterbury District MVCs By Time of Day - Since 1st July 2018



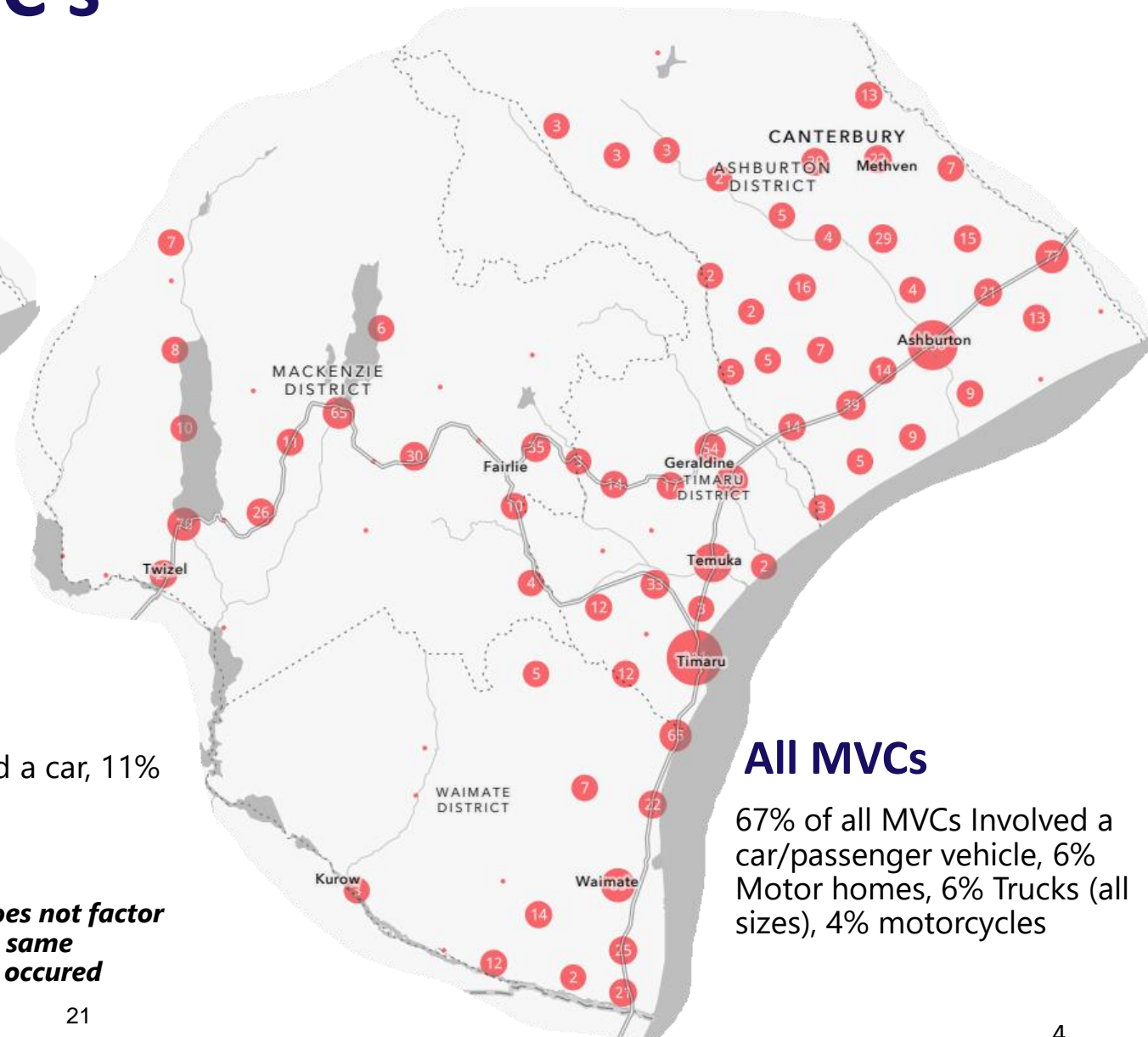
Geographic Spread of MVC's



Fatal MVCs

58% of Fatalities Involved a car, 11% involved motorcycles

Note: The fatality count does not factor in multiple fatalities at the same incident just that a fatality occurred



All MVCs

67% of all MVCs Involved a car/passenger vehicle, 6% Motor homes, 6% Trucks (all sizes), 4% motorcycles

Actions Taken / Outcome



Scene Support is the most frequent action taken type, making up the majority of incidents each year.

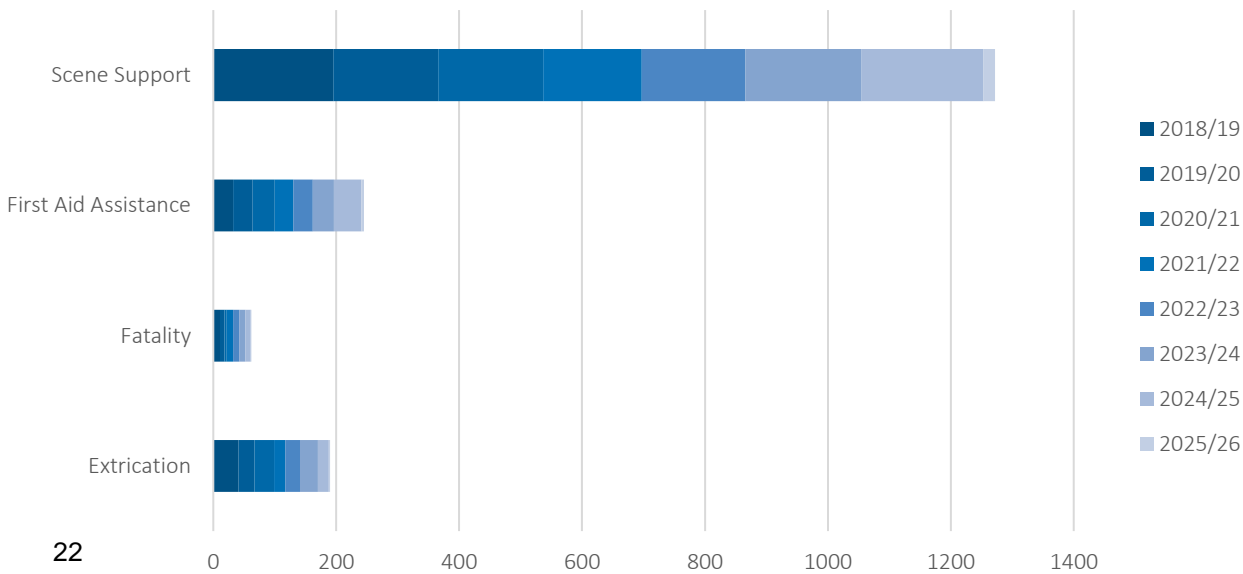


First Aid Assistance shows a steady increase, peaking in 2024/25. Possibly indicating more injuries or improved reporting



Extrication and **Fatalities** are less frequent but consistent, indicating more severe crash types.

Mid South Canterbury MVCs - By Severity - since 1st July 2018



Opportunities – What can FENZ do?



Investigate what contributed to the dip in 2020/21—was it policy, infrastructure, or external factors like COVID-19?



Winter and **Summer** show elevated crash rates—consider seasonal safety campaigns



Crashes are more frequent during **commute hours** and **early mornings**—target these windows with education.



Focus on reducing **fatalities and serious injuries** through public awareness, focusing on vulnerable road users.



WHAKARATONGA IWI

FIRE
EMERGENCY

NEW ZEALAND

fireandemergency.nz

5.3 ACADS Report

Kia ora koutou,

This year, ACADS is reimagining our summer drink driving campaign!

We'd love to invite you to be part of our 2025 campaign to help shift the conversation around drink and drug driving in Mid Canterbury.

The campaign is called "What would you say?"— and it's centered around that single, meaningful question:

"What would you say to someone about to get behind the wheel drunk?"

We're collecting **133 responses** one for every drink/drug driving conviction in Ashburton in 2024.

The campaign will include video clips and photos of real people from across our district - people like you!

We're aiming to create something low-key, authentic and powerful. We're looking for honest answers, in your own words, however you'd say it (no acting or scripts required!).

We're working with the wonderful James Bradley from [Rickwood Creative Videography](#), who will be setting up a simple and relaxed shoot at locations across our district. We're hoping this will include some community spaces, outdoor areas, and even a few homes!

Our hope is that **everyone** in the community **sees someone** they can relate to in this campaign.

The video and images will be shared across ACADS and CAAP social media, with the ability for you to share it across your social media as well.

We are also looking at hosting a 'launch' night where we will show the campaign footage and hopefully have a panel of speakers talking about their experience being part of the project!

Let me know if you're keen to take part, and feel free to forward this on to anyone you think might be a great fit.

We're hoping to start filming in late September - early October, exact dates TBC.

Email steph@acads.co.nz if you're keen to take part!

Noho ora mai,

Steph Poole

WANT TO BE PART OF OUR 2025 CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE DRINK AND DRUG DRIVING IN ASHBURTON?

The campaign is called "What would you say?" – and it's centered around that single, meaningful question.

We're collecting 133 responses – one for every drink/drug driving conviction in Ashburton in 2024.

Our hope is that everyone in the community sees someone they can relate to in this campaign.

Keen to take part?

Scan the QR code to
email Steph today!
steph@acads.co.nz



WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE ABOUT TO GET BEHIND THE WHEEL DRUNK?

YOU ARE
HERE



#SafeRideSorted

5.4 Automobile Association Report

I apologise for not being able to attend our Road Safety Committee meeting but Jo and I are sailing with friends around the Turkish coast at this time.

As usual, we have been making submissions on a wide range of roading issues, mainly in Christchurch at this time. We have concerns over the huge number of so called speed safety humps being installed without considering their effect on emergency vehicles or the imposition on the general public. They are a danger to motor cyclists and cyclists in icy or wet conditions also. It does seem that they are being installed without taking into consideration submitters views in many cases. There is an alternative, less invasive product being trialled so hopefully it will show some success.

We have concerns of the poor standard of SH1 road repairs between Timaru and Christchurch at present. Winter this year has been unkind to roading but it seems that many of the repairs are very sub standard and longevity of repairs is very limited. We have a joint meeting between our Canterbury/West Coast AA Council and South Canterbury AA Council here in Ashburton later in November with Minister James Meager so we will be discussing this matter, along with other local issues while he is with us.

It is good to see the second bridge progressing as planned. This will provide a much more robust passage for continued service provision throughout the South Island should we have another issue with our existing bridge on SH1 as we did a few years ago. Although designated a local bridge, it provides security to the S.I supply chain in a disaster.

It is pleasing to see major changes taking place in driver licencing, WOF requirements and potentially more appropriate penalties for offences being overhauled. The last review of offences was undertaken in 1999 so it is well overdue.

My Council are also working the possibility of having some of the temporary Bailey Bridges relocated permanently to the West Coast as they used to be. At present they are all stored in Christchurch. Should a disaster happen on the Coast, which is highly likely, the supply chain up and down the West Coast is severely compromised if these bridges are not readily available.

For the continuation of our very successful "Be Safe -Be Seen" cycle light project have 2,300 sets of cycle lights on their way from China. These will be distributed mainly to South Island school children through the various AA Councils who have placed orders, but Wairarapa in the North Island have now come on board too. By the time these are distributed 4,500 school children will be safer on the roads due to them being more visible. If we save one child's life it will have been a worthwhile project.

Our AARF (Research Foundation) is undertaking a huge number of worthwhile projects as usual. I suggest you take a look at the site to see another aspect of the AA that few people know about.

That's about all from me at present. I hope the meeting goes well and will see you all next time.

John Skevington

Road safety liaison meeting – September 2025

Current Projects

- There are currently no capital projects being constructed in the Ashburton District.

Safety and Low Cost Low Risk

- The 24-27 NLTP lists are confirmed. Year 2 Q1 funding has been 'turned on' and we are just confirming project scopes and project resources
- Burnham wide centreline works are complete but whether and construction issues mean some remedial works required. No works are planned for State Highways within the ADC region
- School speed zones underway, design checks completed on the detailed design plans and I understand these have been shared with council
- Below is a graph showing DSI crashes within the Ashburton district since the year 2000 including total DSI crashes, and split into local roads and State Highways

Safety Cameras

- Starting 1 July 2025, NZTA is responsible for all safety cameras in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Safety cameras are one way we can improve road safety and reduce the current level of harm on our streets and roads. They encourage people to drive to the speed limit and respect red lights. We use the term 'safety camera' not 'speed camera' because their purpose is to make our roads safer. The term also covers a variety of camera technology
- We've now rolled out signs at all fixed speed camera sites to give drivers an opportunity to slow down. We're also planning new average speed safety cameras along high-risk corridors and roads.
- Safety cameras are a tool we use to reduce harm, not to generate revenue. Money from safety camera fines goes into the Government Consolidated Fund (Government's purse)
- The NZTA website has further information about the Safety Cameras programme.
<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/driving-safely/safety-cameras/>

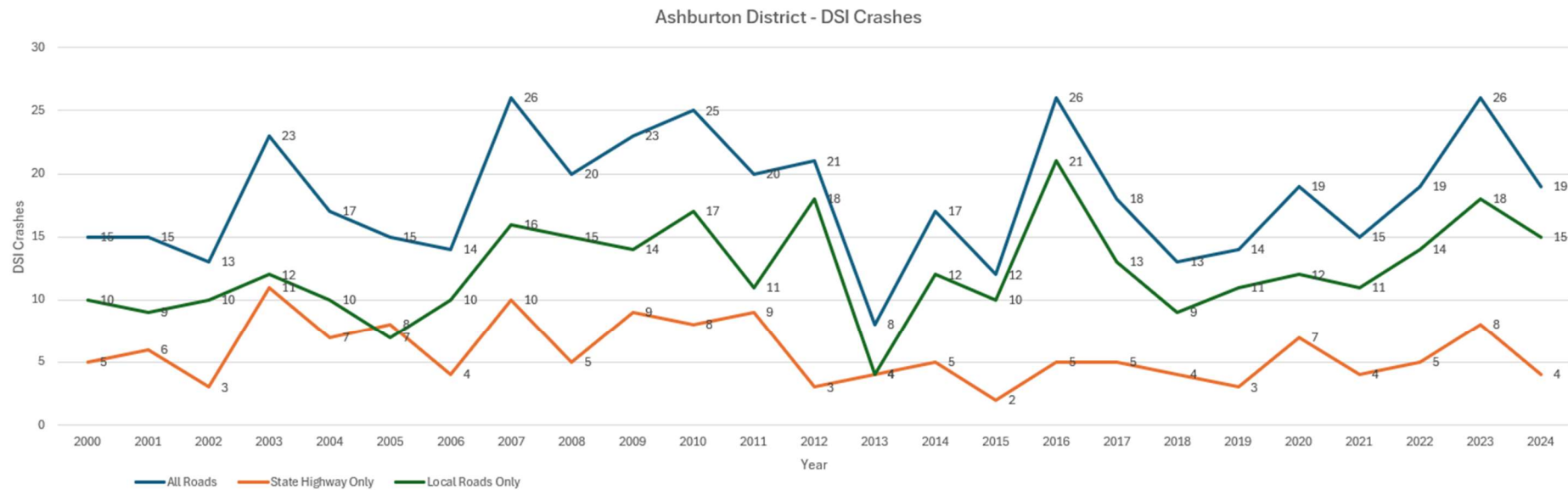
Community Road Safety Fund

NZTA's review of the Community Road Safety Fund is now complete. We plan to re-open the Fund to applications from community groups in October 2025.

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/what-new-zealand-transport-agency-waka-kotahi-is-doing/community-road-safety-fund/>

Maintenance Works

- Major Works Proposed for 2025 Construction Season :
- Ashburton SAC Project - Remainder of works from South Street to Ashburton Bridge. Due to recommence October for a duration of 3 weeks.
- Tinwald Resurfacing works – extents TBC. Due to commence January 2025
- Granular Rehabilitation Works – SH01 Long Beach Road North to Tinwald. Currently due to commence after Christmas, will be 2 months works.
- SH77 Rawles Curve - Currently due to commence late October, will be around 1 months work.



Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee – 9th September 2025

Report from Ira Ara Aotearoa - Transporting New Zealand

Wire Rope Barriers Down the Centre of State Highway One

After attending two NZTA Freight Forum meetings in both Dunedin and Christchurch the question was asked if wire rope barriers were to proceed on any highways in their jurisdictions? And we have been told they will not. This is a relief to operators particularly those in the over-dimension field as the restrictions wire ropes impose on a load pilots ability to ensure safety to other road users is extremely restrictive.

Effluent Spills from Gypsy Day Cow Movements

We have had no reports of any significant spills of effluent during the Gypsy Day and heifer returns from grazing. There are still significant challenges in this space with farmer education being the key to reducing spillages from trucks.

Recent TV News Report on Large Fines to Rural Contractors

Following a recent TV news story in which a local contractor voiced frustration after being caught overweight and fined more than \$12,000, the road freight industry has been watching developments with interest. Over the past several years, we have seen an increasing number of heavy tractors towing equally heavy trailers with large loads operating not only on rural roads, but often on main roads as well.

These machines are frequently operated by younger drivers, as they can legally be driven on a Class 1 licence under certain conditions. By contrast, anyone wishing to drive a heavy truck over six tonnes must undergo a far more rigorous licensing process—one that, depending on age, can take years to complete.

While the road freight industry sympathises with the frustrations that rural contractors face, it is important to recognise that the heavy transport sector has long been required to comply with strict legislation and has been subject to rigorous enforcement for decades. With modern technology now being included at the new weigh stations at Rakaia recording and monitoring every heavy vehicle pass, any attempt to avoid compliance is now virtually impossible.

Our association has therefore released the following statement on the matter:

Rules on road transport between farms need addressing

Following last night's [One News Story](#) about an overweight farm tractor and trailer and subsequent comments from Transport Minister Chris Bishop, road freight association Transporting New Zealand says it agrees those rules need to be reviewed - but it can't just be a case of 'anything goes'.

Chief Executive, Dom Kalasih said there is a risk that people jump to incorrect conclusions. "Prior to Minister Bishop's announcement in June about reforming the land transport rules, we'd been working with officials on this and unless something has dramatically changed, the requirements related to operating farm equipment on the road isn't in the scope of the first tranche of work.

"That said, we'll have to wait and see what comes out in October."

While technology in the agriculture sector has improved, Kalasih cautions that the purpose of land transport rules can't be ignored.

"These rules are in place to ensure that safety and roading infrastructure impacts are being managed, and that maintenance on those assets is being paid for. The agricultural sector needs to take accountability in managing and contributing to these things."

"There's no doubt that an efficient productive agricultural sector is a key part to the success of our economy. But on the flip side, I think that sector needs to appreciate there are an increasing number of motorists that are getting stuck behind farm tractors and trailers and while they're following them, they're thinking it all looks a bit dodgy.

"I'd hate to see a serious crash or major damage to a bridge because those vehicles were exempt from all the rules."

Transporting New Zealand will be continuing to work with officials on the rules reform.

Jim Crouchley
Industry Advisor - Transporting New Zealand



Report for Ashburton Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee

09/09/2025

S. Burgerhout - Canterbury Highway Patrol

Road Toll 2025 (as at 29/082025):

201 deaths (178 same time last year).

Canterbury 23 deaths compared to 25 same time last year.

Aoraki data:

Ashburton 2025: 2 2024:0 (one wheelchair pedestrian, one driver)

Timaru 2025: 3 2024:5

Mackenzie 2025: 0 2024:5

Waimate: 2025: 1 2024:0

Response to Ashburton Road Safety Action Plan:

July 2024-June 2025

Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving:

47 impaired drivers apprehended.

Fail to give way or stop at intersections:

258 failed to comply with duties or obligation offences

Safe Speeds – too fast for conditions:

4800 speed infringements issued. 83% of there were open road offences.

22% of speed notices were in the 1-10km/h speed band.

Young drivers - Learner and restricted drivers:

Low number of offences being reported averaging about 10 a month.

Reduction in the number of motorcyclists killed and seriously injured:

We don't record notice data for motorcyclists, however last year 27 motorcyclist/pillions died on NZ road compared to 36 the year before

RIDS/Fatigue:

80% of all of the notices issued by Aoraki HWP staff were RIDS offences (Restraints, Impairment, Distraction and Speed).

Staffing:

Aoraki HWP is 2 staff under strength and due to the proposed restructure of the District, we are unable to advertise vacancies until this is completed.

Methven:

No staff

Ashburton:

3 x staff members however one has just commenced 12 months paternity leave. We have advertised for an expression of interest to fill that role for the year, that job had a closing date of 02/09/2025.

Timaru:

5 x staff members.

Fairlie:

No staff.

Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee

Terms of Reference

Purpose and Scope

The Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee (ADRSCC) is a community committee, administered by the Ashburton District Council. It is recognised by all participants that to effectively address road safety issues in Ashburton District it will require an integrated combination of engineering, education, and enforcement approaches and initiatives. The committee has, since its inception in 1995, worked collaboratively to promote this.

In undertaking its functions the ADRSCC is to consider road safety matters as they relate to all roads in the Ashburton District, including State Highways, and to all users of these roads.

The ADRSCC should also consider road safety matters as they relate to neighbouring territorial authority areas, the Canterbury region and New Zealand as a whole when more integrated approaches are considered beneficial to the promotion of road safety.

Vision: *Ashburton District has safe roads, roadsides and road users which contribute to an ongoing reduction in injuries and fatalities on our roads.*

Membership

Membership of the ADRSCC consists of representatives from the following agencies / organisations. Each of the agencies / organisations will endeavour to have at least one representative on the ADRSCC at any one time.

- Ashburton District Council
 - 3 Councillors plus the Mayor (ex officio)
 - Council Roading Officers (including the Graduate Engineer - Roading)
- Waka Kotahi/New Zealand Transport Agency
- New Zealand Police
- Ia Ara Aotearoa/Transporting NZ
- ACC
- ACADS
- NZ Automobile Association
- Mid Canterbury Principals' Association
- FENZ
- South Canterbury Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee

The quorum will be representatives of not less than half the member agencies, with at least one Ashburton District Council elected member present.

- Committee membership is not limited to the above agencies and may include membership from other agencies, organisations or skilled individuals if it is considered by the Committee that they will contribute to achieving the purpose of the District's Road Safety Strategy. Additional members need to be approved by majority vote by the Committee.
- Committee membership will continue until such time as any member wishes to resign, and in that case that member can nominate another person from their agency in their place.
- All members must agree to support the terms of reference.

Key Actions and Functions of the ADRSCC

The ADRSCC will undertake the following core functions to contribute to achieving the Committee's vision:

Support and encourage education programmes that promote 'Road to Zero' within Ashburton District.

- Support and encourage visible policing campaigns that have a road safety focus.
- Work collaboratively to prepare an annual Road Safety Action Plan.
- Ensure the efficient and effective delivery of projects and initiatives included in the Road Safety Action Plan.
- Raise the profile of road safety initiatives within member organisations and the wider community.
- Provide networking and information sharing opportunities with regular reporting by member organisations on their projects and priorities.
- Advocate for improved road safety both in the district and nationally.

District Road Safety Action Plan

The Ashburton District Road Safety Action Plan is prepared annually by the ADRSCC and identifies the local road safety goals and actions the Committee will focus on for the year.

The Action Plan details links with the goals and priorities of the 'Road to Zero' strategy and local priorities identified by the ADRSCC. Additional priorities in the Road Safety Action Plan may be added by the Committee. Goals and priorities will be reviewed at least every two years.

The goals of the current Ashburton District Road Safety Plan are:

- 1) A reduction in the number of casualties from crashes involving 16-25 year old drivers and passengers
- 2) A reduction in the number of fatal and serious casualties from crashes involving alcohol or drug impaired drivers
- 3) A reduction in the number of fatal and serious casualties from speed related crashes
- 4) A reduction in the number of fatal and serious casualties from crashes at intersections
- 5) A reduction in the number of motorcyclists killed and seriously injured.
- 6) A reduction in death and serious casualties from lack of restraint, impairment, distraction, speed and fatigue.

Meetings

- The Committee will meet four times a year at the Ashburton District Council. Meetings will generally be open to the public. *(A section may be included on an agenda for items that would be reasonably expected to be considered with the public excluded.)*
- The Committee will be chaired by one of the Council elected members
- In the absence of a Council elected member, the Committee will be chaired by the Roading Manager.
- All Committee members have full voting rights.
- Council's Standing Orders will not apply to this Committee.
- Recommendations for agenda items are invited from Committee members no later than 7 days before the date of the meeting.
- Committee decisions and activities are reported through Council.
- Technical officer and administration support will be provided by Council's Infrastructure Services Group and Governance Team including notice of meeting to members, agenda preparation and minutes. . Agendas will be circulated not less than 5 days before the meeting.

Date Adopted: 22 November 2018

Terms of reference reviewed and updated on 1 August 2023