

Monmouthshire Scrutiny

Place Committee ~ Feedback to Cabinet of Meeting held on 1st October 2026

Report Item: Road Safety Transport 2026-2040

Key Issues raised by the Committee:

Councillors questioned whether the strategy gives sufficient weight to local knowledge alongside recorded collision and casualty data. They raised concerns that near misses, minor incidents, reports made through 101 and repeated damage to infrastructure may not appear in the formal evidence base, meaning some dangerous locations could be overlooked. Members called for a dedicated and accessible reporting system through which councillors and residents could record near misses, emerging risks and damage to features such as bollards and pedestrian refuges. They also questioned whether the strategy's definition of success should extend beyond reductions in deaths and serious injuries to include wider indicators, such as safer conditions and increased walking and cycling.

A recurring concern was the effectiveness and availability of enforcement. Councillors asked how the Council could strengthen its work with Gwent Police and GoSafe, particularly in relation to dangerous driving, speeding in 20mph areas and rural-road risks to pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. Questions were raised about the limited number of enforcement vans and fixed speed cameras, the criteria governing where enforcement can take place and whether reports made through 101 are being consistently recorded and acted upon. Members noted that gaps in police reporting could weaken the data used to identify hotspots and justify future enforcement.

Councillors also focused on school and community safety. They asked how the safe-routes-to-school programme operates, what more could be done about vehicles parking on pavements and outside school gates, and whether additional enforcement could be provided around Durand Primary School. Questions were raised about the travel arrangements and school travel plan for pupils travelling from Severnside to Chepstow School. More broadly, members queried why some communities appeared more prominent in the strategy than others and highlighted specific concerns in Llanellen, including the A4042 trunk road and the B4269, as examples of locations where community intelligence and monitoring data should help shape future action.

Monmouthshire Scrutiny

The safety of vulnerable and emerging groups of road users featured prominently. Members questioned the absence of information about e-scooters and e-bikes, the limited data on incidents involving them and the appropriate route for reporting dangerous or antisocial use. They also asked whether incidents involving mobility scooters should be captured and how collisions and near misses would be recorded on shared-use routes involving cyclists, pedestrians and wheelchair users. Further questions concerned whether children and young people should be identified as a separate priority group, the safety of horse riders on rural roads and whether better-maintained bridleways could reduce the need for horses to use the highway.

Motorcycle safety and practical highway measures were another major theme. Councillors asked whether the 40mph restriction near the M48 junction on the B4235 could be extended following collisions involving motorcyclists, whether temporary motorcycle warning signs could become permanent and whether the Council could learn from approaches used elsewhere. Members suggested more targeted engagement with motorcyclists at popular meeting points and sought clarity on when the Council's motorcycle safety study and consultation findings would be available. The discussion also covered horse-rider warning signs, the importance of road-safety education and driver awareness, the preventative value of the Mature Driver Course, and the contribution that well-maintained road markings and reflective studs can make to safer driving.

Chair's Conclusion:

The Chair thanked the officers for the work that has gone into the strategy, and for their responses at the meeting.

Points requiring a further response by the Cabinet Member:

None.