



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 8th December 2009

Subject: Request for Scrutiny on the number of people killed and seriously injured in Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A request for scrutiny has been received from Councillor Sue Bentley on the number of people killed or seriously injured in Leeds.
- 1.2 The reasons stated for her request is that the Council's Strategic Plan on page 40 indicator N147 shows "Leeds has the highest accident rate of killed or seriously injured (KSI) in West Yorkshire. An average of 364 KSI per annum taken over a three year period. We know if drivers reduce their speed they cause less serious injuries. In 2005 the DfT put the value to society of preventing a serious accident at £160,480, and then there is the grief and pain caused. The target for 2009/10 is 355 a reduction of 9 based on the 2005 figures. I make that a saving of £1.44m which should be used to improve pedestrian safety by introducing 20mph across the city particularly around our schools. If we travel slower presumably we cause less pollution as well?"
- 1.3 Councillor Bentley has been invited to attend today's meeting to explain further her request for scrutiny.

2.0 City Development Department

- 2.1 The Director of City Development has been invited to respond to this request and will be represented at the meeting. Any information provided in writing by the Directorate will be made available to Members of the Board as soon as it is available.

3.0 Options for Investigations and Inquiries

- 3.1 When considering the request for Scrutiny, the Scrutiny Board (City Development) shall determine:
- what further information the Board needs before considering whether an inquiry should be undertaken
 - how the proposed inquiry meets criteria approved from time to time by the Scrutiny Advisory Group
 - whether the Inquiry can be adequately resource
 - whether an Inquiry should be undertaken

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Board is asked to:
- (i) Consider the request for Scrutiny from Councillor Sue Bentley
 - (ii) Consider the response of the Director of City Development to the issues raised.
 - (iii) Determine whether the Board wishes to undertake further scrutiny of this matter on the evidence presented.

Background Papers

None referred to