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What is Learn2Live?

Young people aged 16-24 are overrepresented in road traffic collisions Nationally and in the South West Peninsular. The Learn2Live partnership was established in 2008 to help educate young people about road risk and people in this age bracket being injured or killed on the roads.

The Learn2Live (L2L) partnership is made up of Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, Devon Air Ambulance, Devon and Cornwall Police, Devon County Council, South West Ambulance Trust, Devon Air Ambulance, Devon County Council, Somerset Road Safety (Somerset County Council), Cornwall County Council, and Plymouth City Council.

L2L co-ordinates an academic year of road safety activity aimed predominantly at 16-19 year olds in education in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset. The partnership attend Freshers Fairs at colleges, deliver theatre style education events to large groups of up to 1000 young people; deliver a crash car investigation session to classroom size audiences, and participate in multiagency road safety workshop days at specific colleges and schools. In this way L2L sees between 10000 and 15000 students a year in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset.

Not Just One Event

Learn2Live aims to support young people to behave in a way that maximises their safety when using the roads. As with all behavioural change programmes, consideration needs to be given not only to what is delivered but also to how that content is reinforced.

As time and knowledge has moved on, L2L has expanded their offer to include an academic year of 'touch points' as below:



- Freshers Fairs are held at the beginning of the academic year to allow students to meet organisations from the community and from within their own setting to expand their extra curricular opportunities. L2L attend Freshers Fairs with Batak reaction timers to create a fun interaction for students that briefly introduces them to the L2L partnership and to road safety.
- The main L2L events are held in colleges and sixth forms as well as in large public hire venues. They predominantly take place in the autumn or spring terms and are interactive theatre style events that cover decision making for young people, inexperience (hazard prediction), and fitness to drive (Drink/Drug driving, fatigue, distraction). Each section is presented by a different emergency service representative. The events last around 60 minutes.
- The Crash Investigation session is classroom based and delivered by one or two of the L2L team. It explores a simple collision, encouraging the students to consider how their own personality, the social context, and passengers can influence the decisions drivers make. It aims to further develop students' understanding of why their age group is particularly vulnerable to collision involvement. This session is used as either a follow up to attending the main L2L events, or as a session on its own.
- Multi-Agency workshop events are currently being piloted and involve all 999 services attending a college to run workshops reflecting the safe system approach to road safety - safe speeds (Community speed watch team), safe vehicles (Police), safe road users (Fire), Safe roads (Police) and Post Crash Care (Paramedics). This intervention also includes sessions for young motorcyclists.
- L2L attend targeted county shows and local events where there is proven road safety education requirement, where partnership representation is of advantage or where our target audience is in attendance in large numbers.

Funding

Learn2Live (L2) is road safety partnership made up of all the 999 services and local authorities in Devon, Cornwall, and Somerset. L2L is currently funded through Vision Zero South West (VZSW) who are themselves a road safety partnership funded through the camera safety initiative in Devon and Cornwall - partners include all 999 services and local authorities in Devon and Cornwall. L2L is co-ordinated by Devon and Somerset Fire Rescue Service's (DSFRS) Road Safety Team.

Governance

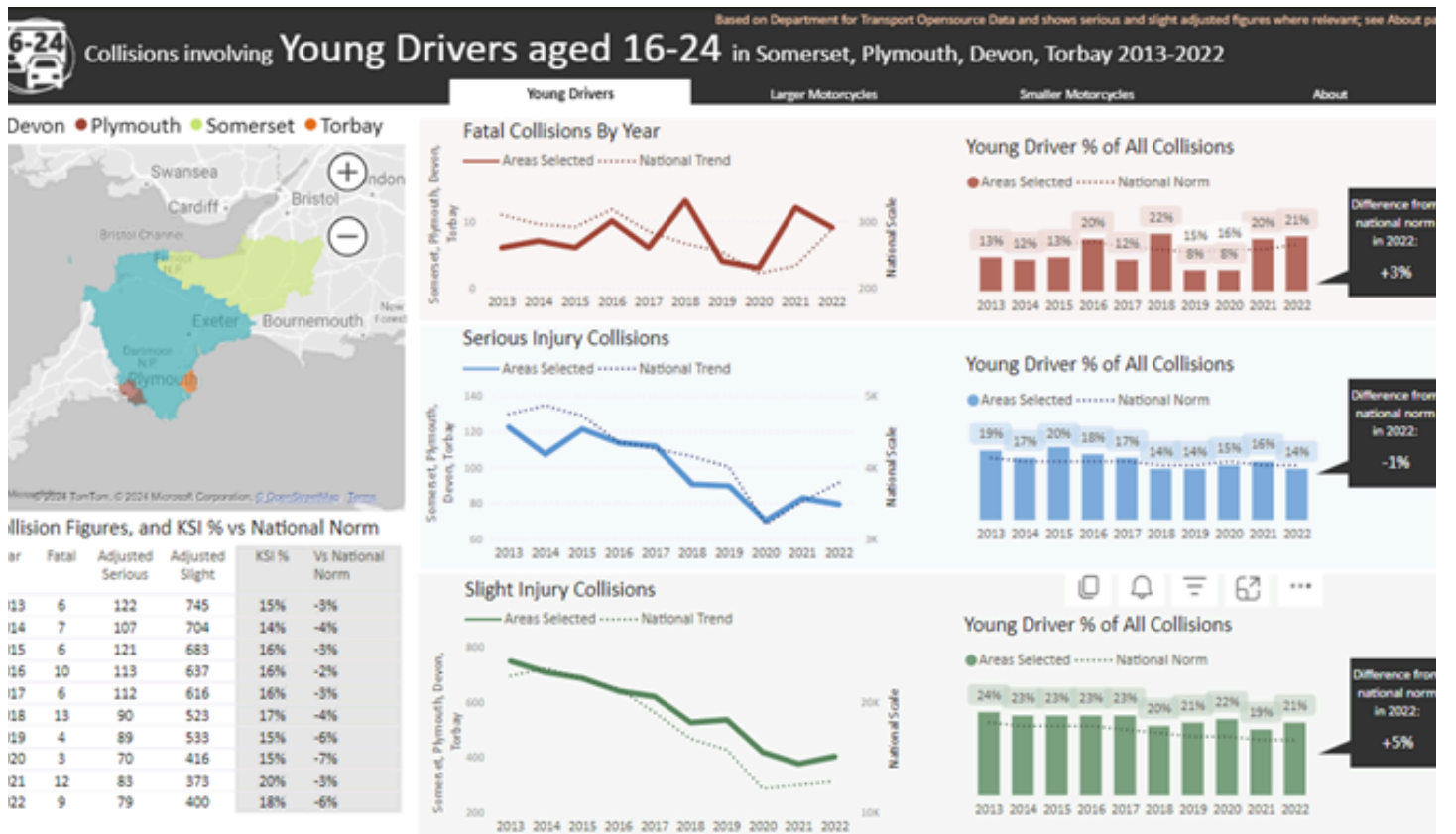
A memorandum of understanding has been signed between key partners for the VZSW partnership. A second MoU has been signed by key partners in the L2L partnership and includes Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, Devon Air Ambulance, Devon and Cornwall Police, Devon County Council, South West Ambulance Trust, Devon Air Ambulance, Devon County Council, Somerset Road Safety (Somerset County Council), Cornwall County Council, and Plymouth City Council.

Is there evidence Learn2Live is needed and works?

Yes and yes! Annual collision data on the South West peninsula evidences trend lines that justify the need for road safety intervention for 16-24 year olds. Learn2Live has been designed to target specific behaviours highlighted by the latest research literature and is continually being evaluated for effectiveness.

Until 2021 L2L events were heavily based on testimonials from 999 services and bereaved families, sharing real life accounts of local RTC's and their consequences. In response to research recommendations, L2L delivery moved to rely less heavily on testimonials from 2017 onwards. In 2021-22 L2L worked hard to engage 24 Devon schools and colleges to take part in the Pre-Driver Theatre and Workshop Education Research (PdTWER) conducted by Dr Elizabeth Box.

Taking forward the recommendations from this research (which in itself was a culmination of more than a decade of academic agreement), L2L removed nearly all of testimonial aspects and any reliance on fear appeal and the health and emotional consequences of RTCs. The academic year 2023/ 4 saw a completely new externally created design of L2L helping students understand hazard perception, inexperience, decision making and fitness to drive (impairment, fatigue, and distraction). Early independent evaluation indicated the pilot was proving effective and subsequently 2024/5 will now see a cluster randomised control trial of this new L2L event, primarily being conducted via events in the Autumn term of 2024.



Academic Evaluation of L2L to date:

Randomised Cluster Trial 2024

Taking place Autumn 2024

Pre and Post 2023

https://learn-2-live.org.uk/uploads/l2l_evaluation_report_autumn_2023_v12.docx

Dr Elizabeth Box 2020

https://learn-2-live.org.uk/uploads/learn2live_ebox_final_oct20_002.pdf

Dr Lauren Weston from Plymouth University

https://learn-2-live.org.uk/uploads/lauren_weston_plym_uni_research.ppt

Dr Cris Burgess's research at the University of Exeter

https://learn-2-live.org.uk/uploads/2011_executive_summary_exeter_uni_2011.pdf

Contact Us

We are keen to share best practice and work with other 999 services and road safety partnerships to further help reduce KSIs on our roads. As such please do get in touch!

More Information

- [Keeping Young People Safe On Our Roads | Learn2Live \(learn-2-live.org.uk\)](#)
- [Learn 2 Live | Facebook](#)
- [Profile / X](#)

Key Contacts

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