

Bristol Cycling Campaign Policy Statement

Manifesto for Police and Crime Commissioner Candidates



- Every week two people walking or cycling in Bristol are seriously injured or killed by motor vehicles¹
- Fear of road danger is the major factor trapping children and older people into unhealthy and more limited lives
- Effective policing sets standards of behaviour, safety and mutual respect on our roads, to the benefit of vulnerable road users, the main victims of road danger
- Deep seated problems in enforcement, investigation and prosecutions are acknowledged to be failing vulnerable road users²
- The Bristol [Road Justice](#) Group has been working with the police on strategies to make our roads free from fear and harm³.

The Police and Crime Commissioner must direct policies and resources to where they will be most effective at improving the safety of vulnerable road users. We are calling on candidates to support our **Road Justice** manifesto, for the benefit of everyone. We also commend the [RoadPeace manifesto for London](#).

Questions for Candidates

1. Will you make it a police priority to work with councils towards a 'Vision Zero' approach to road danger reduction? This will involve an integrated approach based on [A Safe System Approach to Road Safety in Bristol](#). A senior officer should be responsible and meet regularly with walking and cycling groups.
2. Lower speeds are the most significant factor in reducing road danger and have widespread community support. Will you make enforcement of speed limits a police priority?
3. Low level intimidation from motor vehicles is an everyday experience for most people cycling and for many pedestrians. Two thirds of people say they consider the roads too dangerous to consider cycling due to the behaviour of traffic. In any other area of life this fear of crime and anti-social behaviour would not be tolerated. Will you ensure that policing the roads is prioritised according to its impact on the lives of most people?
4. Poor outcomes of investigations and prosecutions are failing to support and protect the victims of collisions; this is a national and local problem. Will you set targets that require the police to report regularly on progress in how collisions are handled?
5. Will you ensure that policing priorities should follow an evidence based approach to identify the underlying issues and sources of danger and threat? This means a road danger reduction approach at local and district level.

¹ <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/streets-travel/road-safety-plans>

² <http://www.roadjustice.org.uk>, <http://www.roadpeace.org>

³ <http://bristolcyclingcampaign.org.uk/road-justice>