



Working with the police

Why engage with the police locally?

- Police have been given increased powers to make decisions about spending and policing priorities
- There are locally specific challenges and problems that need to be tackled
- The police need to be held to account by the public



Police roles and hierarchy



College of Policing



ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS



Police charging responsibilities



- **Summary offences irrespective of plea**
 - Careless driving
 - Driving whilst disqualified
- **Either way offences anticipated as guilty plea and suitable for sentence in Magistrates' Courts**
 - Dangerous driving
 - Causing serious injury by dangerous driving



Problems with roads policing

- Poor evidence collection
- Failure to attend injury collisions
- Dismissal of dangerous driving as careless due to various reasons (lack of understanding of definitions, desire to get conviction, attitude towards driving/cycling)
- Victim blaming due to lack of understanding of cycling and prejudiced views of cyclists' behaviour
- Failure to inform victims of case progress

Group activity



1. Get into groups of 3-4 people
2. Discuss what police problems you are aware of
3. Feedback 3 main issues to the group





Bristol Cycling Campaign – best practice example of local engagement

- Used Road Justice police map
- Used twitter to engage with Police and Crime Commissioner
- Collected local case studies of poor police investigations
- Conducted research into cycle collisions on notoriously bad cycle commuter road
- Met with Chief Constable and head of RPU.
- Decided clear actions.
- Set up regular meetings with Avon and Somerset Police.
- Communicate well with wider campaign membership.