

# SafeHome

## Keeping Children & Young People Safe in BANES

A warm welcome to the 12th edition of 'Safe Home'. This edition includes a focus on road safety, how to heat the home safely, electrical safety, keeping safe over Halloween, Bonfire Night and Christmas, a link to the recording of the recent safer sleep webinar, a product recall, and more.

### A SPOTLIGHT ON ROAD SAFETY

National Road Safety Week is on 14-20 November, with a theme of 'Safe Roads for All.' The campaign will raise awareness of safer vehicles and speeds and the new hierarchy of road users. View further information and get involved at [www.brake.org.uk/road-safety-week](http://www.brake.org.uk/road-safety-week)

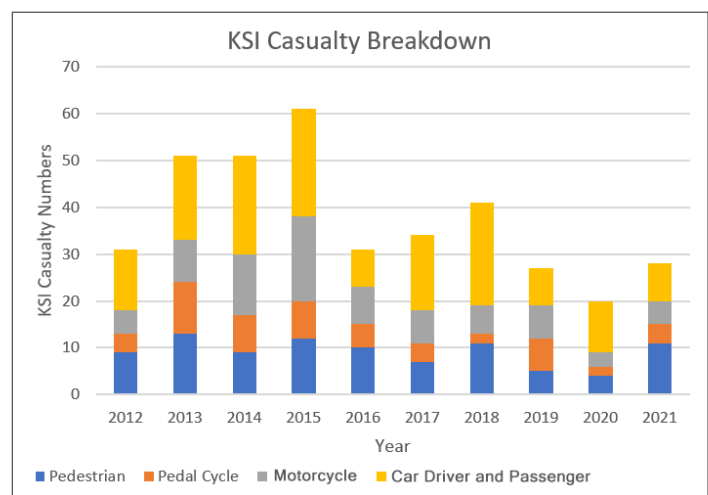
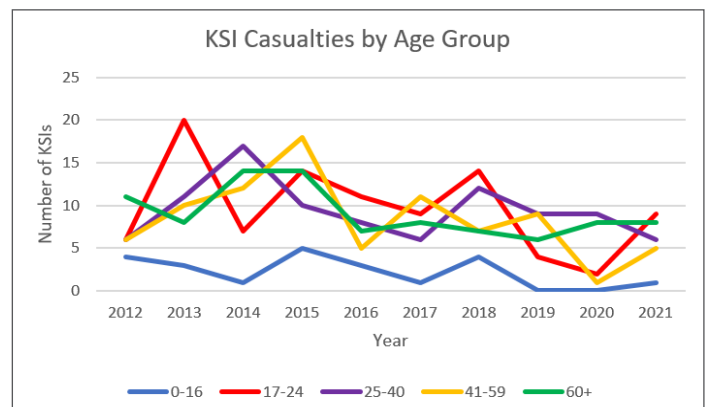
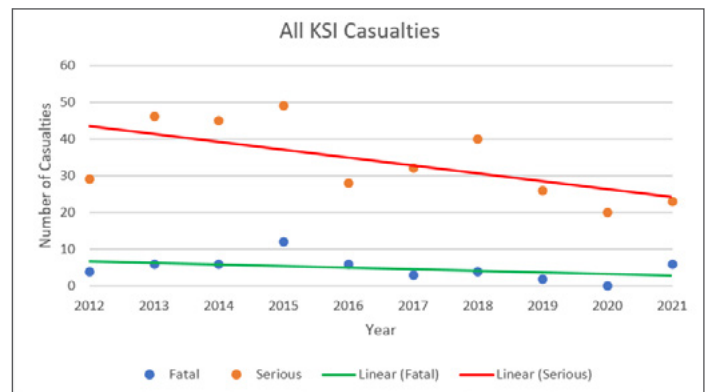
Meanwhile, the B&NES Road Safety Team is working towards targets of zero Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) road casualties by 2040. B&NES, South Gloucestershire and Bristol local authorities have pledged the Vision Zero target within the Joint Local Transport Plan.

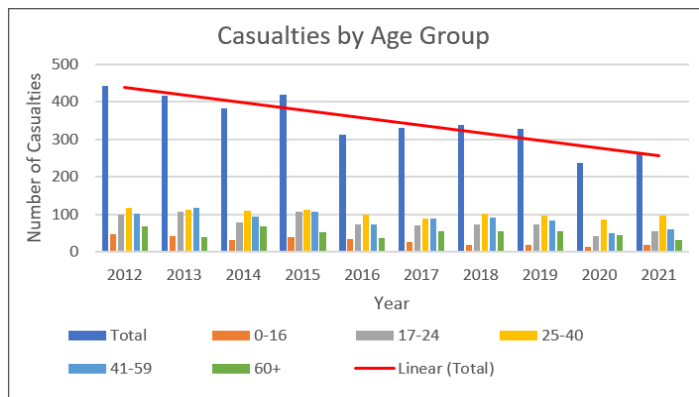
Many thanks to David Boardman, Senior Road Safety Engineer, B&NES Council, for sharing the below data and graphs that show casualty\* reduction on the B&NES highway network over the past decade. He says, 'the data supplied by the Police is mapped, recorded and analysed for apparent patterns, trends and collision hotspots for the opportunity of either educational or engineering intervention'.

Although data indicates an overall trend of a reduction of all casualties and KSIs, these are preventable. Road safety is everyone's responsibility to ensure the safety of themselves and others.

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\*The term 'casualty' is split into: Slight (could be anything from shock, whiplash to broken fingers- something that doesn't require any or no immediate medical attention); Serious (broken noses/limbs to severe head injuries- an ambulance would normally attend these); Fatal.





## What you can do:

- 1) Support parents/carers to teach their children road safety with the following resources:
  - Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents' *Teaching Road Safety: A guide for parents* is available [here](#).
  - Child Accident Prevention Trust's activity sheets for children are downloadable [here](#). These include a pedestrian safety join-the-dots and a holding hands activity.
  - Our top tips on road safety are available [here](#).
- 2) Do you work with children aged 2-7? Beep Beep Day activities, provided by Brake, are a great way to teach young children road safety basics, while raising awareness among parents/carers and the wider community about road safety. See further information [here](#).

## TAKE ACTION TODAY, PUT THEM AWAY

B&NES Injury Prevention Partnership launched RoSPA's poisoning prevention campaign, *Take Action Today, Put Them Away* during Child Safety Week 2022. The campaign includes home safety checklists and pads for the fridge with key safety reminders to parents/carers. View the recorded webinar and read more about the campaign at: <https://thehub.bathnes.gov.uk/Page/22106> To order free magnetic pads and checklists for your setting, please contact [EarlyHelp\\_Commissioning@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyHelp_Commissioning@bathnes.gov.uk)

## HIGHCHAIR PRODUCT RECALL

The John Lewis Safari highchair has been recalled due to a safety issue caused by plastic end caps on the removable tray coming loose and posing a choking risk to children. Read more on the [Which website](#).

## HEATING THE HOME SAFELY THIS WINTER

Avon Fire & Rescue offers top tips to share with parents/carers around the safer use of portable heaters and wood-burning stoves: [www.avonfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/seasonal-safety/winter/heating-your-home](http://www.avonfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/seasonal-safety/winter/heating-your-home)

RoSPA lists safety advice for parents/carers around bioethanol and gel burners: [www.rospace.com/home-safety/advice/general/preventing-accidents-in-the-home#heating](http://www.rospace.com/home-safety/advice/general/preventing-accidents-in-the-home#heating)

## STRAIGHT OFF, STRAIGHT AWAY

According to RoSPA, hair straighteners can reach up to between 210-230°C – three times the temperature of a freshly-made cup of tea, and hotter than domestic irons. Touching hot hair straighteners can lead to devastating effects including life-long scars, particularly for young children whose skin more fragile than an adult's.

Parents/carers can help protect their children from these burns by keeping them out of reach, using heat resistant bags and turning them off straight after using them. View further information [here](#).

## SAFER SLEEP WEBINAR

The recording for the recent BSW Webinar on Understanding sudden infant death syndrome in infancy, and promoting safer sleep in 0-1s will be made available soon on [the HUB](#).

## SPOOKY AND SAFE

The Autumn 2021 edition of Safe Home included a feature on Halloween Safety called 'Scare Safely' with key messages for parents and carers, which you [can download here](#).



## ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Parents/carers can avoid overloading sockets and reduce the risk of fire. Electrical Fire Safety First suggests to:

- check the current rating of extension leads. Never overload an extension lead by plugging in appliances that together will exceed the maximum current rating stated for the extension lead.
- use the overload calculator, available [here](#), to check if you're exceeding the maximum load.
- view information on Home Appliance Ratings on [Electrical Fire Safety First's website](#) for an indication of the current ratings of commonly-used appliances.
- only use one socket extension lead per socket.
- never plug one extension lead into another.
- use multi-way bar extension leads rather than block adaptors.
- consider having additional sockets installed if you regularly rely on extension leads and adaptors; registered electricians can be searched for on [Electrical Fire Safe First's website](#).

- check regularly for the following danger signs:

- ⚠️ smell of hot plastic or burning near an appliance or socket
- ⚠️ sparks or smoke coming from plugs or appliances
- ⚠️ blackness or scorch marks around sockets, plugs, or on appliances
- ⚠️ damaged or frayed leads
- ⚠️ coloured wire inside leads showing at the plug or elsewhere
- ⚠️ melted plastic on the appliance or leads
- ⚠️ fuses that blow or circuit-breakers that operate.

Chargers for devices are not interchangeable. Electrical Safety First warns that if a wrong charger is used, 'There is the potential for an incorrect charge to be applied to your device. This could result in ... battery and device damage and the risk of overheating, fire and explosion'.

Avon Fire & Rescue offers FREE Home Fire Safety visits specifically for families with children under 5, which includes avoiding electrical fires, alongside fitting and testing smoke alarms, safe use of candles, smoking, cooking, escape route planning, night-time routines, and what to do in the case of a fire. Further information about the visits is available [here](#).



## REMEMBER, REMEMBER, FIREWORK SAFETY

Children's Burns Trust predicts that this year 500 children and their families will be injured because of fireworks and garden fire injuries in England and Wales. Most injuries are to the eyes, head or hands and therefore result in visible scars.

Read our safety messages for parents and carers [here](#).

Avon Fire & Rescue Service's FiDO the Firedog offers families with primary school aged children top safety tips for Bonfire night. This video resource is available on [Youtube](#).

For more information about bonfire and firework safety, visit [Children's Burns Trust](#) and [Avon Fire & Rescue](#) websites.

## CHRISTMAS TOY SAFETY

The number of dangerous toys sold online is increasing, according to Child Accident Prevention Trust, who offers facts and tips which can be shared with parents/carers:

<https://capt.org.uk/safe-christmas-toys-online/>

We hope you have found this newsletter informative. We are interested in receiving your feedback and contributions for the next newsletter. Please do get in touch with us:

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**Bath & North East Somerset Council**