Young & newly qualified drivers at work.

Ross Bartlett
Road Safety & Safer Routes to School Officer
Highland Council Road Safety Team
## Figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>17-25 Drivers</th>
<th>Percentage of collisions</th>
<th>All Highland Drivers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatal</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slight</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong></td>
<td><strong>28%</strong></td>
<td><strong>444</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Challenge

Young people:
• Faster, fitter and healthier
• Increase in fatalities

Not due to illness but casualties
Adolescence

- Puberty – adult responsibilities
- Period of adolescence has been increasing
- A third of people aged 20-35 are still living with parents.
- Average age of marriage in UK: 32
Age-related factors

- Sensation seeking
- Antisocial tendencies
- Impulsivity

Peak about 17
Why do most 16-year-olds drive like they’re missing a part of their brain?

BECAUSE THEY ARE.
Cognitive Functions of the Human Prefrontal Cortex

Functions involve:

- The ability to recognise future consequences resulting from current actions
- Selective attention
- Anticipation
- Emotion regulation
- Reasoning and decision making
- Processing event sequences
- Adaptiveness to new situation
Influence of Age and Experience on Accident Liability

Maycock (2002) – Novice driver accidents and the driving test
Experience

post licence crash involvement

[Graph showing the number of crashes per million km over time, with a decrease in crash involvement as time increases.]
Inexperienced Driver

Capability

Task Difficulty

Speed

Experienced Driver

Capability

Task Difficulty

Speed
Clip 10: 20 year old Female, Experienced

Clip 10: 20 year old Female, Learner

SCR (µS)

Anticipatory area

Event area

15 seconds
Experience paradox

- How do we minimise risk and get experience?!

- Need experience to reduce crash risk but acquiring experience is high risk

Solution....
Pass Plus Scheme

- In town
- In all weather
- At night
- On dual carriageways
- On motorways
- On rural/single track roads
How to qualify for a Pass Plus grant

- Must live in Highland
- Passed test within last 12 months
- Apply to Highland Council before starting Pass Plus course.
- Complete Pass Plus Course of at least 6 sessions
Access to a vehicle

- Have own vehicle: 60%
- Use Parents/other vehicle: 31%
- Drive a vehicle at work: 9%

Type of Vehicle

% of respondents
Caused most difficulty

- Overtaking: 25%
- Night Driving: 24%
- Motor / Dual Carriageway Driving: 18%
- Nearly crashing into the rear of a vehicle: 18%
- Approaching corners/bends too fast: 11%
- Severe bad weather driving: 11%
- Manoeuvring (reversing/parking): 11%
Improved ability to drive?

Extent of Improvement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot?</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A little?</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all?</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Improved safety of driving?

Extent of Improvement

- A lot: 58
- A little: 39
- Not at all: 1
- Don't know: 1
How to apply....

Apply online at www.highland.gov.uk/passplus

Or call 01349 886604
Pass Plus scheme & local businesses
Conclusion

- Speed
- Close following
- Alcohol\drugs
- Driving violations
- Hazard perception
- Driver acceleration\deceleration
- Fatigue
Contacts

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