

Only road collisions which result in injury are recorded in the national "Stats 19" database. Although this means that the many non-injury accidents that occur do not form part of the picture of what is happening on our streets, the fact that highway authorities can compare injury collision sites and also know something about the likely causes of each injury collision is exceedingly helpful.

Each injury collision is defined by the severity of the worst injury sustained by those hurt. A serious injury is defined as one for which a person is detained in hospital as an "in-patient", or any of the following injuries whether or not they are detained in hospital: fractures, concussion, internal injuries, crushings, burns (excluding friction burns), severe cuts, severe general shock requiring medical treatment and injuries causing death 30 or more days after the accident. A slight injury is one of a minor character such as a sprain (including neck whiplash injury), bruise or cut which are not judged to be severe, or slight shock requiring roadside attention. This definition includes injuries not requiring medical treatment. A fatal collision is defined as one in which a road user dies immediately or within 30 days of the crash.

An injured casualty is recorded as seriously or slightly injured by the police on the basis of information available within a short time of the accident. This generally will not reflect the results of a medical examination, but may be influenced according to whether the casualty is hospitalised or not. Hospitalisation procedures will vary regionally.

Bromley is careful not to respond to pressure to react in a knee-jerk manner to individual collisions that occur, however tragic the outcome. Most often the cause of a collision is a random mistake made by a road user, where no changes to the road layout would prevent a reoccurrence of the collision. However, where patterns of collisions occur it is possible that the highway authority can intervene in a meaningful way to prevent further collisions at that specific location.

With limited resources even for an absolute priority such as improving road safety and reducing those killed and seriously injured (KSI) on the Borough's roads, prioritisation of remedial schemes takes place approximately annually to deliver the greatest benefit and quickest reductions of KSIs. The Council continues to investigate road collisions and maintain a rolling programme to identify, prioritise and implement casualty reduction schemes and continue to prioritise collision hotspots for remedial action as part of its annual LIP programme, especially those where KSIs have occurred.

Currently, to prioritise investment, Bromley examined a list of locations where there have been 5 or more personal injury collisions within a 50-metre radius, over the last 3 years of available data. The collisions at these locations are analysed to identify if there are any common patterns between the collisions and if so whether there are any measures which could be implemented to prevent similar collisions occurring in the future. Where there are limited funds available to carry out interventions, schemes must be prioritised using a cost-benefit analysis, with a higher weighting given to collisions that led to serious or fatal injuries.

WARD	Total casualties / severity	WARD	Total casualties / severity
Beckenham Town & Copers Cope	131	Hayes & Coney Hall	99
Serious	13	Serious	13
Slight	118	Slight	86
Bickley & Sundridge	102	Kelsey & Eden Park	140
Serious	13	Serious	19
Slight	89	Slight	121
Biggin Hill	55	Mottingham	74
Serious	9	Fatal	1
Slight	46	Serious	10
Bromley Common & Holwood	139	Slight	63
Fatal	2	Orpington	61
Serious	16	Fatal	1
Slight	121	Serious	6
Bromley Town	159	Slight	54
Fatal	1	Penge & Cator	168
Serious	18	Serious	24
Slight	140	Slight	144
Chelsfield	84	Petts Wood & Knoll	82
Fatal	1	Fatal	1
Serious	7	Serious	10
Slight	76	Slight	71
Chislehurst	126	Plaistow	55
Fatal	1	Serious	7
Serious	14	Slight	48
Slight	111	Shortlands & Park Langley	108
Clock House	111	Serious	10
Serious	18	Slight	98
Slight	93	St Mary Cray	130
Crystal Palace & Anerley	96	Serious	12
Fatal	2	Slight	118
Serious	14	St Paul's Cray	110
Slight	80	Serious	12
Darwin	87	Slight	98
Serious	11	West Wickham	85
Slight	76	Serious	18
Farnborough & Crofton	56	Slight	67
Fatal	1	Total Deaths and All Injuries	2258
Serious	7	Total Serious Injuries	274
Slight	48	Total Deaths	11