

Road Safety Coordinators Report – May 2009

Bike Wise 2009

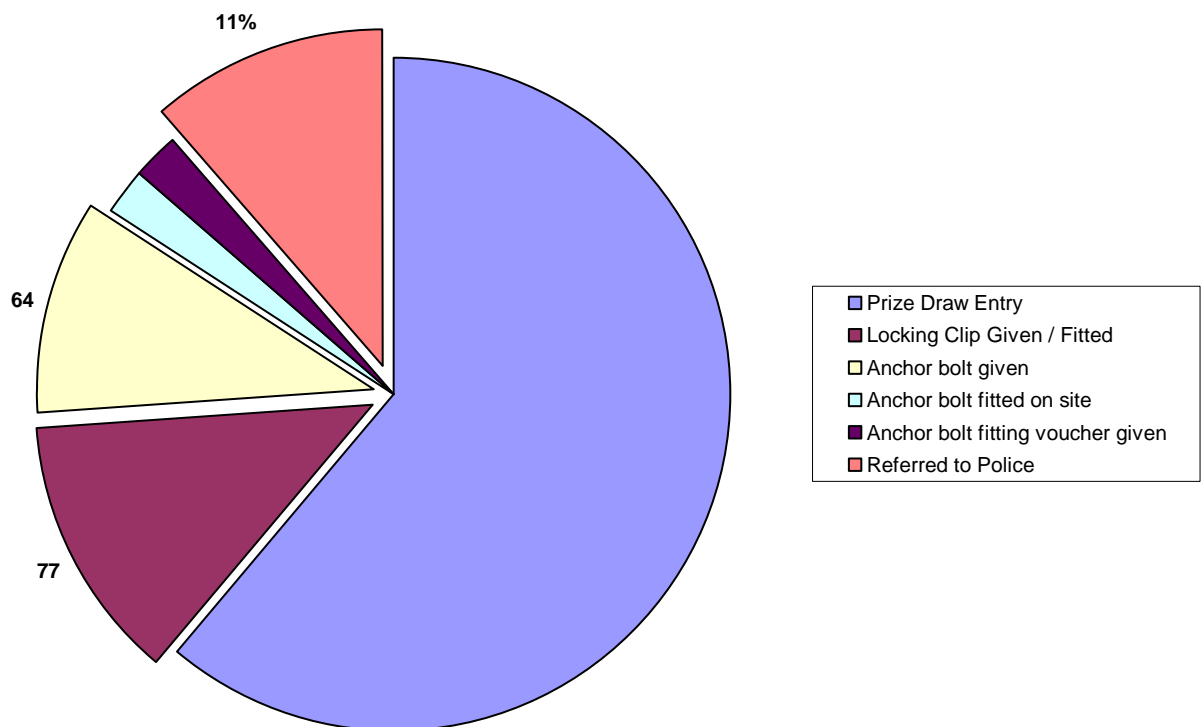
Due to heavy rain the Bike Wise family fun ride in Motueka was postponed. The new date is Saturday 23rd May. The ride starts at 10am at the Skate Park on Old Wharf Road with a short and longer ride. All councilors, and their families, are encouraged to take part in this free family ride.

Child restraints checking clinics and stops

During this joint campaign involving both councils, the police, Plunket, Safe 2 Go and local garages over 700 seats were checked throughout Tasman and Nelson.

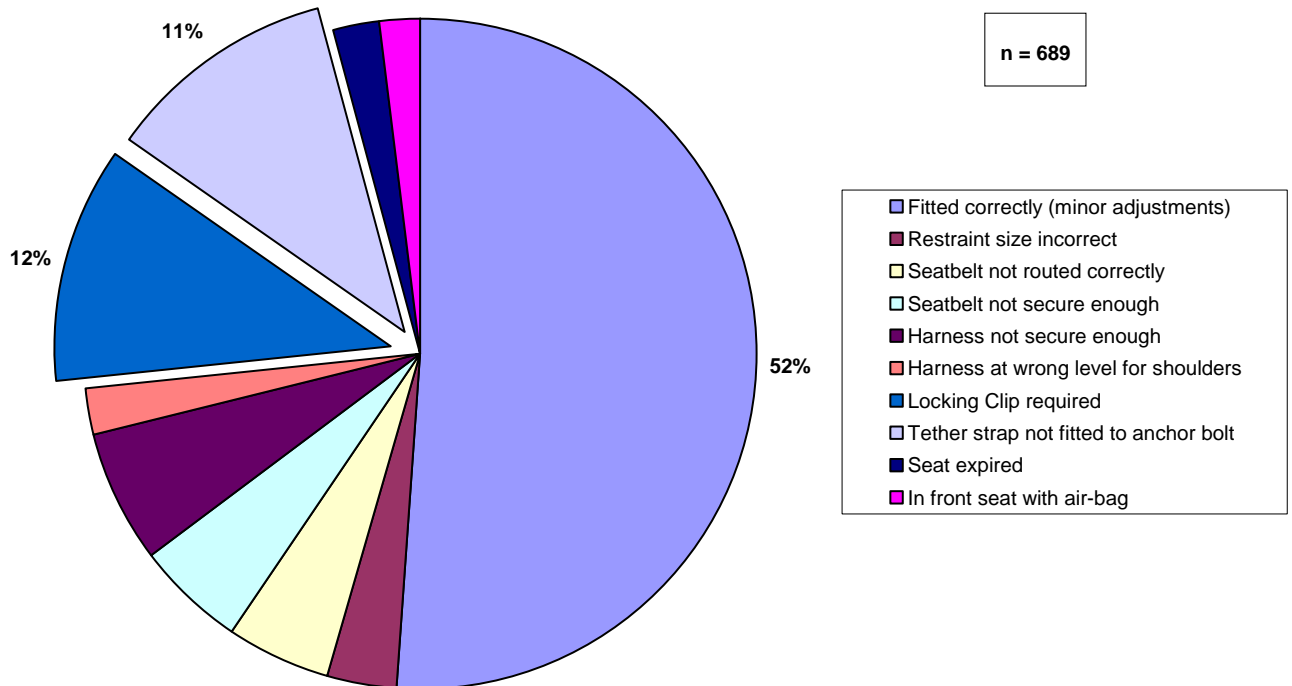
From the graph below it can be seen that 374 seats were correctly fitted which was 62% of all seats checked and recorded. Some of the issues were corrected on site and 11% were referred to the police. The car owner was given the opportunity to fix the issue and if they did so within 14 days and got the seat signed off by a trained technician the ticket was cancelled.

Car Seat Checkpoints - March 2009
Action Taken



The graph below shows a breakdown of what the safety issues were amongst the incorrectly fitted seats. Some of the issues were easy and quick to fix on site, whilst 11% did not have to tether strap attached to the anchor bolt which does not meet with the seat manufacturers' requirements.

Car Seat Checkpoints - March 2009
Fitting Details - All Seats



Public awareness was also raised through print and radio media coverage and information distributed through kindergartens.

Intersection campaign

Work has begun on compiling a newspaper tabloid highlighting Intersection safety in the Nelson/Tasman region. This is a joint project between both councils, NZTA and ACC. In addition to last years content the tabloid will also include information on other issues for our region including..

- Loss of control on bends
- Crossing the centre line
- Pedestrians – road crossings
- Sharing the pathway
- Rural roads and driveways
- Sharing rural roads with cyclists and horses

A youth focus will see the campaign taken to High schools during lunch breaks and using the large “intersection wheel” with some interactive quizzes being run and some giveaways such as road codes distributed. Alongside the print media campaign a radio campaign and competition will be run. In addition we will have “spotters” at intersections controlled by compulsory

stops and traffic signals and will be direct mailing those who do not comply with the rules.

School Travel Plans

The second round of consultation at Brightwater School during their school gala went well and raised a few new issues which are being dealt with presently, for example trimming of trees along the roadside on Ellis Street. Work is ongoing with Wakefield School with respect to setting up Walking School Buses there. A letter drop has taken place along with an item in the Wakefield Village News advertising the Walking School Buses. This scheme will be launched in the next month. The school should soon have their Kea crossing installed. All 9 and 10 year olds at Wakefield School have successfully completed their level 1 cycling skills course and will go on to take level 2 road cycling skills this term. It is hoped that students who are 10 and above will be given permission to cycle to school once they have achieved this level.

Work is about to commence this term with Waimea Intermediate and Waimea College, as well as Salisbury School. The surveys for these schools will be completed online by the students.

As well as these School Travel Plans Sarah has sent out a newsletter item to all primary schools advising on Child Car Seat Restraints for Primary aged children and will conduct an audit of what is happening in Tasman schools in regard to Walking School Buses.

Safety map

This is a joint project with NCC, ACC, NZTA and the police. The project involves designing and producing a map of the Top of the South Island which include roads, journey times and route specific safety information such as...

- Trucks frequent with towing vehicles in summer
- Congested at peak times during the week
- Steep winding road with some unexpected difficult bends
- Road is winding and at times narrow with limited passing opportunities
- During winter ice setting on the roads is a major hazard with unexpected shaded, slippery road conditions
- Fog in low lying areas visibility can be significantly reduced
- Limited passing opportunities
- High density farming and activity

A similar map has been produced in other places in NZ with early outcomes being positive. This map will be distributed via the Cook Strait Ferries, tourist services operators, work places and services to motorists such as petrol stations and in conjunction with the fatigue vouchers. Approximately 20,000 will be printed and distributed.

Motorcycle training courses

An intermediate and advanced course was held in the last weekend in April at Waimea College. There were 38 riders taking part and all provided positive feedback. Many have signed up for another course and have indicated their interest in a maintenance course to be held in August.

Other motorbike initiatives include

- week long compulsory stop campaign which will check warrants, registrations and provide opportunity to advise on training courses and safety gear
- course at Waimea College for all students that ride to school
- new billboard images
- print media coverage and competition

Cycle/ pedestrian visibility

A number of bike lights (and batteries), high visibility bands and vests have been purchased for distribution to walkers/ joggers and cyclists who are out before or after dark. Some will be supplied directly to large employers who have staff on shift work and the police where they will be fitted directly onto bikes which do not have lights. Some will go to all service centers and if stocks allow a local bike group will help distribute these in the early morning and after work at dusk. A press release and article in Newsline will accompany this campaign.