



## Severity Based Assessments for Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)

The following document will ensure attending Officers, Patrol Sergeants and Senior Investigating Officer (SIO's) use an injury-based assessment scale to determine our investigatory response when dealing with an RTC.

It is important to highlight, that the suggested actions are current best practice **considerations** however officers involved may determine that other actions which branch out from the initial response list or are identified through the initial stages are necessary.

### Severity Based Assessment Scale

The following scale should guide officers in their initial attendance and investigation of an RTC and will ensure we deal with all collisions in a uniform way. This assessment scale pulls us away from 'life changing, life threatening' descriptors and will provide all officers with a structured 'check list' of critical initial response actions to be considered.

Injury Code	Severity Code	Injury
1		Deceased
2		Broken neck or back
3		Severe head injury, unconscious
4		Severe chest injury, any difficulty breathing
5		Internal Injuries
6		Multiple severe injuries, unconscious
7		
8	Fractured pelvis or upper leg	
9	Other chest injury	
10	Deep penetrating wound	
11	Multiple severe injuries, conscious	
12		Fractured lower leg/ankle/foot
13		Fractured arm/collarbone/hand
14		Deep cuts/lacerations
15		Other Head Injury
16		Whiplash or neck pain
17		Shallow cuts/laceration/abrasions
18		Sprains and strains
19		Bruising
20		Shock
21		Any other injury

## **VERY SERIOUS INJURY 2-11**

### **CAPTURE SCENE**

Photograph/BWV scene

- Capture scene in its entirety which should include a walk through
- Capture a full walk round of the vehicle's involved
- Scene to remain secure until a provisional update is received from A/E around injuries. If securing this scene is causing undue disruption to MoPs D3 can make the assessment that if they are satisfied the above steps have been taken the road may be re-opened.

### **MEASURE SCENE**

Take measurements of the vehicles, ensuring fixed points are immovable objects and close to final vehicle resting place. The measurements should include.

- All four corners of the car
- Width of road
- Any other objects/items which have been a factor and their measurement to the car
- Distance between the cars

### **WITNESSES**

All witness details and identification of key and significant witnesses. This should include an initial PMB account.

### **DRIVERS**

- Caution and record account
- SL500
- Licence and Insurance to be checked or request for them to be produced.

### **DIGITAL MEDIA**

Dashcam or premises CCTV to be seized. Mobile phone seizure considered if an offence has been committed e.g. Driving without due care.

### **DEFECTS**

Are the drivers claiming a defect? Or have you identified a defect or contributory factor on the vehicle? Vehicle will require towing to DVS for examination.

- Form to be submitted for examination to DVS which has to include OIC requesting and master file number.

### **INJURIES?**

Deploy officer to the Emergency Department with injured party/parties

### **EXTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS**

External considerations

- Is the road surface defective? Through either external debris or maintenance
- Is there lighting which needs installing or replacing?
- Did this occur near a junction? Exiting visibility?

It is important when considering these you look at all possibilities of cause. We have an ability to liaise

with Infrastructure if we believe an external factor has caused the accident and intervention may result in prevention of further issues.

#### **OFFENCES?**

In Consultation with Delta 3 – explore any offences and arrange for driver/s to attend for vol.interview

#### **CSI**

Contact CSI to attend

#### **COLLISION INVESTIGATION UNIT**

Contact CIU to attend

#### **REDBOX**

Ensure red box recordings are secured and requested

#### **DVS**

Consider requesting DVS Officer to attend the scene

#### **DRONE**

Drone footage of scene with cars in situ, cars removed and overall shot of road layout

### **MODERATELY SERIOUS INJURY 12-15**

#### **CAPTURE SCENE**

Photograph/BWV scene

- Capture scene in its entirety which should include a walk through
- Capture a full walk round of the vehicle's involved
- Scene to remain secure until a provisional update is received from A/E around injuries. If securing this scene is causing undue disruption to MoPs D3 can make the assessment that if they are satisfied the above steps have been taken the road may be re-opened.

#### **MEASURE SCENE**

Take measurements of the vehicles, ensuring fixed points are immovable objects and close to final vehicle resting place. The measurements should include.

- All four corners of the car
- Width of road
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#### **WITNESSES**

All witness details and identification of key and significant witnesses. This should include an initial PMB account.

#### **DRIVERS**

- Caution and record account
- SL500
- Licence and Insurance to be checked or request for them to be produced.

#### **DIGITAL MEDIA**

Dashcam or premises CCTV to be seized. Mobile phone seizure considered if an offence has been committed e.g. Driving without due care.

### **DEFECTS**

Are the drivers claiming a defect? Or have you identified a defect or contributory factor on the vehicle? Vehicle will require towing to DVS for examination.

- Form to be submitted for examination to DVS which has to include OIC requesting and master file number.

### **INJURIES?**

Any injured party to be visited in person at A/E and arrangement/agreement should be made for a follow up phone call if deemed necessary.

### **EXTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS**

External considerations

- Is the road surface defective? Through either external debris or maintenance
- Is there lighting which needs installing or replacing?
- Did this occur near a junction? Exiting visibility?

It is important when considering these you look at all possibilities of cause. We have an ability to liaise with Infrastructure if we believe an external factor has caused the accident and intervention may result in prevention of further issues.

### **OFFENCES?**

In Consultation with Delta 3 – explore any offences and arrange for driver/s to attend for vol.interview

### **CSI**

Consideration of CSI's especially for HD photographs to be taken

### **COLLISION INVESTIGATION UNIT**

Consider early conversation with Crash Investigation Unit reference any assistance they might be able to provide. (If OOH inspectors authority required)

## **LESS SERIOUS AND SLIGHT INJURY 16-21**

### **CAPTURE SCENE**

Photograph/BWV scene

- Capture scene in its entirety which should include a walk through
- Capture a full walk round of the vehicle's involved

### **MEASURE SCENE**

Take measurements of the vehicles, ensuring fixed points are immovable objects and close to final vehicle resting place. The measurements should include.

- All four corners of the car
- Width of road
- Any other objects/items which have been a factor and their measurement to the car
- Distance between the cars

### **WITNESSES**

All witness details and identification of key and significant witnesses. This should include an initial PMB account.

### **DRIVERS**

- Caution and record account
- SL500
- Licence and Insurance to be checked or request for them to be produced.

### **DIGITAL MEDIA**

Dashcam or premises CCTV to be seized. Mobile phone seizure considered if an offence has been committed e.g. Driving without due care.

### **DEFECTS**

Are the drivers claiming a defect? Or have you identified a defect or contributory factor on the vehicle? Vehicle will require towing to DVS for examination.

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