

Highway Safety Policy

1. Oxfordshire County Council, as the Highway Authority, is responsible for ensuring the safety of highway users is maintained across the road network throughout Oxfordshire excluding motorways and trunk roads.
2. This policy aims to improve carriageway safety by primarily identifying and prioritising high-risk locations through the analysis of Skidding Resistance and collision data and an overall safety risk assessment of all highway assets.
3. Skidding Resistance surveys are a simulated mechanical measure of a tyre skidding on a wet road surface. Surveys are carried out annually on A and B roads and high-use C roads.
4. The maintenance of adequate levels of skidding resistance on carriageways is a significant aspect of highway maintenance, and one that contributes to network safety.
5. The analysis of risk, with regards to skidding and collisions combined is limited to all existing A and B roads and high-use C roads and police recorded wet skidding related accidents, as defined by the Highway Safety Procedure and national guidance.
6. Oxfordshire County Council will consider locations where a safety concern relating to the condition of the road and associated assets on the network is identified and evidenced through risk assessment.
7. This policy is to improve or maintain the safety of the existing road assets and does not include; new developments, traffic calming schemes or the installation of speed cameras.

Policy: HSP1

Oxfordshire County Council will improve road safety and aim to reduce the number of road traffic accidents which occur within Oxfordshire each year.

8. Oxfordshire has analysed historic accident data alongside road usage to determine skid-resistance Intervention Levels (IL's).

Policy: HSP2

Oxfordshire County Council will aim to improve skidding resistance, where the recorded skidding resistance is below investigatory level and there is a history of three or more wet-skid accidents, within a time frame and proximity to the low IL set by Oxfordshire.

Policy: HSP3

Oxfordshire County Council will work Thames Valley Police to improve road safety.

Policy: HSP4

Oxfordshire County Council will consider the provision and condition all highway assets not just carriageway surface condition.

Service Aim

1. Reduce the overall number of casualties on Oxfordshire's roads.
2. Reduce the percentage of the road network that is below the skidding resistance Investigatory Level.
3. Improve public perception of safety on Oxfordshire's roads

Reference & Supporting Documents

- Highway Safety Procedure
- Coloured Surfacing Procedure
- [OCC Highways Asset Management Plan](#)
- Official Police Accident Statistics (STATS 19)

Related Standards:

- [HD28/15 – Skidding Resistance](#)