



**AIRSO Conference**  
**1<sup>st</sup> July 2008**

**Cardiff**

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# Road Death Investigation

- Key Organisations
- The police role
- Areas of investigation
- Case study

# Road Death Investigation

- Criminal Justice Unit (CJU)
- Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)
- Health & Safety Executive (HSE)
- Independent Police Complaints Commission

# Road Death Investigation

Road Death Manual details responsibilities:

- Senior Investigating officer (SIO)
- Collision Investigator (CIO)
- Investigating Officer (OIC)
- Family Liaison Officer (FLO)

# Road Death Investigation

- The Collision Investigator
  - The investigation of collisions resulting in death/serious injury
  - Fatal RTC's are treated as **unlawful killings** until the contrary is proved
  - Determining extent of scene
  - Gathering of evidence at the scene
    - » To connect those involved in the collision to vehicles involved
    - » To determine pre impact position of vehicles
    - » To determine speed where possible
    - » Tyre marks/ debris etc
  - The use of scientific formulae
  - To determine where possible the cause of the collision
  - To provide expert evidence in court

# Road Death Investigation

- The investigation will look at policies in relation to:
  - Record keeping of drivers
  - Drivers license classification- are they entitled to drive the type of vehicle
  - Driver training- if driving as part of employment
  - Drivers hours
    - HGV tachograph hours
    - 3.5 tonne vehicles/trailers & tachographs
    - transporting other employees in minibuses at end of shift
  - Suitability of vehicle
  - Vehicle maintenance procedures and records- **even when leased!**

# Road Death Investigation

## CASE STUDY

- Responding to 999 call
- Negotiating right hand bend
- Lost control
- Collided with vehicle & overturned
- Car driver killed

# Road Death Investigation

- Driver originally trained on Bedford
- No awareness training for new vehicles
- No additional driver training

# Road Death Investigation

- The Ambulance Service accepted liability for the incident.
- Changes implemented to driver training.
- Family awarded **£1.8 million** compensation



# Questions?

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