



YOUTH SAFETY

Promote youth safety and reduce youth involvement in crime and disorder.

YOUTH SAFETY

Our youth are the leaders of tomorrow. It is essential for the community, in partnership with the police service, to invest in our youth now, to ensure the future well-being of our community.

The Regional Municipality of Durham has the highest ratio of youth to population in the Greater Toronto Area which underscores the need for a comprehensive response to youth-related issues. Our society's process-oriented justice system is often ineffective at redirecting young people who come in contact with the law into a productive and honest lifestyle. Alternative judicial measures are vitally needed. Working with our community partners the Service has implemented a restorative justice program for youth. This program is victim-focused and involves early intervention with youth at risk and diversion programs for those starting down the road of anti-social behaviour.

OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE YOUTH SAFETY

Strategies:

- Continue to support initiatives with schools and other community partners that engage and empower youth, and positively impact their development.
- Partner with schools, community agencies and young people, to support age-specific early intervention programs, and share information about available programs and resources with the community.
- Partner with schools and other community partners to reduce youth victimization through age-specific education.
- Encourage reporting of crime.

OBJECTIVE 2 – REDUCE YOUTH CRIME AND DISORDER

Strategies:

- Review, develop, and implement a coordinated service delivery model for youth intervention and enforcement efforts.
- Review and enhance officer training, understanding, and accountability regarding the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and relevant youth-related issues.
- Continue to use various means to divert youth from the criminal justice system to allow more effective response to reduce re-offending.
- Continue to work with community partners to enhance programs to reduce youth disorder.
- Ensure greater support and response to youth victims of crime.

PRIORITIES FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

OBJECTIVE 3 – ACTIVELY MANAGE HIGH RISK YOUNG OFFENDERS

Strategies:

- Work with parents/guardians and community partners to define, identify, monitor, and manage high risk young offenders.
- Engage in cooperative efforts to facilitate information-sharing with community agencies working with high risk young offenders to closely monitor youth most at risk to commit crimes.

- Work with the judiciary and other partners to facilitate information-sharing, and enforce conditions of bail and parole, targeting high risk, habitual young offenders to reduce re-offending.
- Work with appropriate agencies to promote effective rehabilitation and reintegration of young offenders having served a custodial sentence.

KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Youth crime rate
- Youth clearance rate





ROADWAY SAFETY

Promote safer roads and reduce motor vehicle collisions.

ROADWAY SAFETY

The police service will continue to aggressively address the issue of roadway safety through comprehensive education and awareness programs supported by targeted enforcement. Traffic accidents are the number one cause of personal injury and fatalities for our citizens and the Durham Regional Police Service's action on this priority has produced results already. Although the number of registered vehicles is increasing with our population and the total number of collisions is increasing, the proportion of personal injury accidents has declined. The Service will continue to deploy year-round R.I.D.E. Programs with the goal of reducing the number of persons operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, and the number of motor vehicle collisions involving impaired drivers. The Service will also continue with its monthly regional traffic initiatives, which target intersections with a high level of personal injury accidents.



OBJECTIVE 1 – PROMOTE SAFE DRIVING

Strategies:

- Work with key partners and the community to identify and implement innovative roadway safety strategies to promote safer roads and reduce roadway collisions.
- Work with all levels of government to develop or amend legislation to promote roadway safety.
- Work with educational institutions to identify and participate in specific education and early intervention programs for young drivers.
- Provide education to citizens to heighten awareness of personal driving habits, promote attentive driving, and reduce aggressive driving and driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.
- Promote safe driving habits of DRPS members.
- Research new technologies to support prevention and education strategies and explore innovative alternatives to traditional enforcement strategies.

PRIORITIES FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

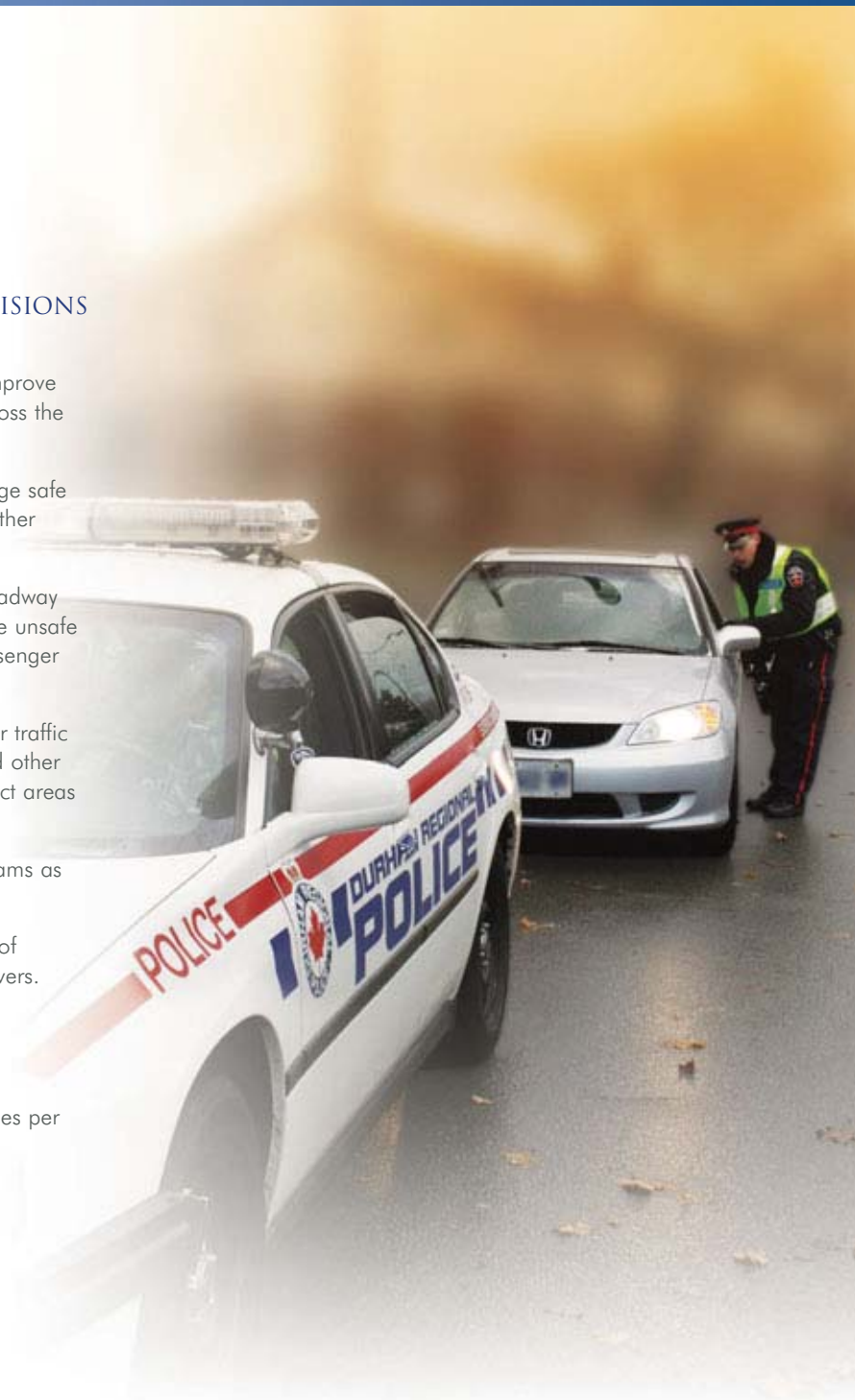
OBJECTIVE 2 – REDUCE VEHICLE COLLISIONS

Strategies:

- Review the organizational structure to improve information-sharing and consistency across the DRPS to roadway safety initiatives.
- Explore alternative strategies to encourage safe driving to manage vehicle speeds and other unsafe driving behaviours.
- Improve coordination of inter-agency roadway safety enforcement strategies to decrease unsafe driving and unsafe commercial and passenger vehicles being operated on the road.
- Enhance targeted enforcement and other traffic strategies to manage vehicle speeds and other unsafe driving behaviours that can impact areas experiencing a high collision rate.
- Enhance year-long use of R.I.D.E. Programs as targeted enforcement.
- Actively identify and target enforcement of impaired, suspended, or disqualified drivers.

KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURE

- Number of collisions with personal injuries per registered vehicles in Durham Region





VIOLENCE AGAINST / EXPLOITATION OF PERSONS

Prevent and reduce violent crime and exploitation of persons.

VIOLENCE AGAINST / EXPLOITATION OF PERSONS

The police service will continue to pursue reductions in domestic violence, youth gang violence, street level robberies and drug-related crime through education, awareness, strict enforcement, partnerships and community mobilization. The Service will also work to improve service to the victims of crime. Exploitation of our youth and elderly is a growing concern and a more comprehensive response will be developed to curb this trend.

OBJECTIVE 1 – PREVENT VIOLENT CRIME

Strategies:

- Partner with community agencies and citizens to identify and address the root causes that lead to crimes of violence and develop strategies to prevent victimization.
- Working with community partners to prevent the incidence of anti-social behaviour that interfere with the quality of life of residents, visitors, and business communities.
- Enhance community awareness of violent crime through such means as the media and police service website.
- Continue to target the cultivation, use, and sale of illicit drugs through directed patrols, projects, and multi-agency problem-solving approaches.
- Increase public awareness concerning gang activity in the community and disrupt gang recruitment.

OBJECTIVE 2 – REDUCE VIOLENT CRIME

Strategies:

- Disrupt criminal activities of identified gang members through directed patrols, targeted enforcement of release conditions, and federal/provincial/local strategies.
- Improve the sharing of information to provide for a more coordinated response to prevent violent crime.
- Enhance use of intelligence-led policing activities to reduce violent crime.
- Explore funding opportunities to support and sustain prevention and enforcement initiatives to address violent crimes.
- Continue to actively identify, monitor, and manage high risk violent offenders.
- Work with judiciary and other key partners to ensure a coordinated response to high risk and habitual offenders.

PRIORITIES FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

OBJECTIVE 3 – PREVENT AND REDUCE EXPLOITATION OF PERSONS

Strategies:

- Review the organizational structure relating to our response to vulnerable persons to provide a single point of contact for members, agencies, and vulnerable persons.
- Engage community partners to provide a coordinated approach to prevent and respond to exploitation and crimes of violence, and address the root causes of anti-social behaviour.
- Develop an integrated structure for sharing access to information and resources internally and with the community. Work with community partners to overcome barriers to information-sharing.
- Provide education for members and work with community partners to broaden the understanding of societal and/or cultural differences that deter vulnerable people from seeking police assistance.
- Enhance our response to, and technical resources for, Internet child exploitation and other Internet crime investigations.

KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Violent crime rate
- Violent crime clearance rate





PROPERTY CRIME

Prevent and reduce property crime in Durham Region.

PROPERTY CRIME

Crimes relating to property are a key concern for our citizens as this is the type of crime they are most likely to personally experience. The goal of this strategic priority is to reduce property crime. Action on this objective directly links to our response to youth issues as they are the main age group involved in this category of crime. The Service will work to identify offending youth earlier allowing them to be directed into an alternative judicial program where appropriate. Sustainable priorities will also be used to address habitual offenders. Vehicle thefts, vandalism, residential and commercial break ins and thefts result in a huge cost to our communities, financially and psychologically. Citizens may not report these crimes to the police or their insurance company due to the potential impact of rising insurance premiums. The police service response to this issue will be targeted with strong performance measures to determine if the desired outcome is being achieved.



OBJECTIVE 1 – PREVENT PROPERTY CRIME

Strategies:

- Proactively engage community partners to identify the root causes of property crime, and enhance their participation in municipal and neighbourhood crime prevention initiatives.
- Work with businesses and citizens to prevent and reduce the incidence of all property crimes through targeted education to prevent incidents.
- Use existing infrastructure to ensure community awareness of property crime in their vicinity, including enhanced use of media and the police service website.
- In partnership with municipalities and the Region, enhance support for the use of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design for residential and commercial development in Durham Region.
- Work with provincial government and municipal councils to change legislation and amend by-laws to limit the market for the resale of stolen goods.
- Develop a system to track best practices in property crime prevention for information exchange with citizens and businesses.

PRIORITIES FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

OBJECTIVE 2 – REDUCE PROPERTY CRIME

Strategies:

- Review organizational structure to ensure a sustained focus on response to property crime investigations.
- More effective staff deployment to promote consistency and increase focus on neighbourhood policing in partnership with the community.
- Increase use of crime analysis and intelligence-sharing to target property offences such as vehicle thefts, vandalism, residential and commercial break ins, and drug-related crimes.
- Encourage property crime reporting and improve ease of access to reporting.
- Explore funding opportunities to enhance resources for property crime investigations.
- Further develop programs with community partners to divert offenders from the criminal justice system to allow more effective response to reduce re-offending.
- Actively identify, monitor, and manage habitual property crime offenders.
- Ensure greater support and response to victims of property crime.

KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Property crime rate
- Property crime clearance rate

