

Shearsby Cross Roads - Update on Police Reports of Accidents

5 years to June 2018

- There were 3 accidents recorded in 2017
- No accidents recorded in 2018
- The number of accidents has remained the same over 5 years (10 accidents)
- Of the new accidents since the last report we requested, 2 were categorised as serious and 1 as slight (this is an increase in serious accidents)
- Despite some issues with the data on accidents from Arnesby to Knaptoft (excluding the cross roads) the level of accidents seems to have fallen from 22 to (around) 13 on this stretch of road. It is still a very high number.

Other points

- The last data we analysed was 5 years to February 2017.
- The police are only recording accidents where there are casualties. The reports we have been collecting from the public show a much larger number of accidents (an additional 7 in 2017 and 5 accidents in 2018 so far.)
- The new data is not exactly comparable to our last set because the search has been done on the 'Shearsby crossroads area' rather than the 'Shearsby cross roads'. So 5 additional accidents are included in the data compared to last time. I have adjusted for this to compare the trends reported above.
- Same problem with the Arnesby to Knaptoft data. Although this is more troublesome to adjust for to get a trend, as there are accidents recorded as happening at Knaptoft in our last set of data that aren't on this set and accidents recorded at Mowsley last time not on this set and also strangely an accident at Arnesby appearing on this set not on the last set. I suspect the Arnesby anomaly is because the search this time was 'Arnesby village' rather than 'Arnesby'. The Mowsley anomaly is because the search last time was to Mowsley, this time its to Knaptoft. The upshot of all this is that we might be over-counting by 1 (the Arnesby village accident) and under-counting by accidents in Mowsley in 2017 (for pre 2017 we have the data to add back). Overall I think its safe to assume accidents have fallen on this stretch of road.

Conclusions

- This data does not show a decrease in accident levels since the improvements to the crossroads in 2015/2016.
- The data of accidents in the Shearsby Cross Roads 'Area' shows, 2 accidents in 2014, 1 in 2015, 5 in 2016, 3 in 2017 and none in 2018 (to June).
- If there are no more accidents in 2018, this is obviously a good thing but unfortunately may be used as a reason by Highways to take no further action at their next review of the crossroads in Spring 2019. We will just have to wait and see.
- If we take a wider view and include our new evidence of the large number of accidents which are not on these police reports (because they don't involve casualties), this would indicate that if road safety and prevention of accidents resulting in casualties was an important funding priority, action would clearly be taken.