

Celebrating success

UN Decade of Action for Road Safety
Case Study 5

England



Target:
**90% of travel on
3-star or better
roads by 2020.**

The UK is one of the leading countries in road safety performance, and large scale investments by Highways England and Department for Transport are now being prioritized using the Risk Mapping, Star Rating and Investment Plans as part of the EuroRAP programme led by the Road Safety Foundation. The robust policy and investment planning tools are helping target and shape multi-million pound investments across the country.

Key achievements

The work of the Road Safety Foundation in the UK has been central to significant policy, institutional, investment and programme success. In 2015, Highways England set a target to achieve 90% of travel on 3-star or better roads across the strategic road network by 2020. Recent achievements towards this goal have included:

- The 2016 Office of Rail and Road [Benchmarking Highways England Report](#) on the benchmarking of performance and efficiency, outlines the key role for EuroRAP benchmarking of crash risk and star ratings, and guides progress towards Highways England's policy target.
- The [Highways England Strategic Plan 2015-2020](#) details commitments to ensure that 90% of the network achieves the 3-star or better rating by 2020. The UK Government also announced a 15.2bn GBP investment in over 100 major schemes to help prevent 2,500 deaths or serious injuries on the network.
- Road cross section designs are being developed to ensure the desired star rating targets for each road type are met (e.g. 4 and 5-star smart motorways, 4-star expressways and 3 and 4-star trunk roads at a minimum), thereby delivering a system-wide change in road design standards.
- 44,400km of roads Risk Mapped on an annual basis.

Saving lives into the future

- The Road Safety Foundation and AGEAS partnership to consistently risk map and performance track the road network across the UK, delivers innovative new reporting themes each year. The 2016 launch of results focused on [Making Road Travel as Safe as Rail and Air](#) and challenged the culture around what is possible in road safety. The UK

Government announced a £175m investment in England's 50 most risky 'A' roads identified in the report.

- The operational inclusion of star rating targets and guidelines will ensure new road designs and upgrades achieve a minimum 3-star standard and save lives.
- Focus on the local economic cost of road crashes has now attracted the attention of central funding agencies looking to maximize the scale and return on road safety investment across England.

For more information

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TIMELINE FOR SUCCESS

- 2002 First risk mapping of British network published
- 2003 Most improved and persistently high risk roads reported on annually
Department for Transport funds Risk Mapping
- 2007 Pilot of star rating in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland published
- 2010 The then Highways Agency first assessment of Strategic Road Network published
- 2011 Annual award presented for most improved road
- 2012 Ageas UK Insurance funds risk mapping in Britain
- 2014 Government announcement of [15.5bn GBP investment](#) in over 100 schemes to help prevent 2500 deaths or serious injuries on the network
- 2015 MoU established between Highways England and Road Safety Foundation; Highways England sets target of 90% travel on 3-star or better on Strategic Road Network by 2020
- 2017 Follow-up Star Rating on the Highways England Strategic Road Network; funding of 50 local authority scheme improvements



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