



**SUBJECT:** Look right, look left and look right again.

**RECIPIENTS:** All Council Services (including schools)

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## What happened?

A Magistrates' Court heard how a group of teenage school children were taking part in a walking expedition, which had been organised by an external provider. The route being taken required the group and their supervisor to cross a dual carriageway. One of the pupils was struck by a car travelling in the outside lane. The 15-year-old suffered multiple fractures as a result of the collision.



An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that those responsible for the expedition had not planned the route to allow for safe passage across the dual carriageway. There were no specific traffic control measures in place at the crossing point used by the group, and the company chose not to use a footbridge (about 400 metres away) as part of the route. Ultimately, in this case the provider fell short of meeting their obligations.

## What can we learn?

- Every school trip requires some form of planning and risk assessment.
- Schools must ensure that when using an external provider, they complete suitable and sufficient due diligence.
- School to carry out on-going monitoring; to ensure the provider is competent and that risk is managed effectively.

With the above in place, school trips can be **fun**, **educational**, and **safe**.

**If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:**

Corporate Health & Safety Advisers (see George section: Corporate > Information for Working > Risk Management > H&S Advisers) or the Corporate Health & Safety team via email at [corporatehealth&safety@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:corporatehealth&safety@lincolnshire.gov.uk)