

WEST OF ENGLAND ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

WEDNESDAY 18th MARCH 2009 - AT 10:00 AM

ITEM 9 – SAFETY CAMERA ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY 2008/09

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of Safecam operations within the West of England area during 2008/09
- 1.2 Safety cameras continue to play an important part of an integrated road safety strategy, in reducing speed and collisions at locations where excess or in appropriate speed is a contributory factor
- 1.3 This analysis is based on the outturn 2007/08 figures and the latest available data for 2008/09 extrapolated to give a 12 month estimate
- 1.4 Individual site information is not provided due to the exemption to provide such detail under the Freedom of Information Act
- 1.5 In the West of England area there are currently have three mobile teams covering the four unitary areas, there are currently 100 mobile sites, these teams are also responsible for the change of film in the fixed sites
- 1.6 Also in the West of England area Safecam operate with two fixed camera systems, the Gatso wet film is used in 23 sites for speed and 10 for red traffic light offences, these are cameras that have to be physically changed by the mobile teams. The RedSpeed cameras are digital and relay offences directly to the back office staff and operate constantly, there are 16 speed sites and 21 red light sites
- 1.7 Safecam also operate on behalf of the WoERSP the educational programme Speed Choice, the programme is currently being expanded to introduce other speed limits and red light offences, a milestone was reached in 2008 when the figure for those who attended a course passed 120,000 since its introduction in 2003

2. Evidence of Current Operations

2.1 The following table details the projected level of operations for 2008/09 compared to 2007/08. This data includes a reduction in service that Safecam carry out in North Somerset following its decision to reduce funding.

2.2 It should be noted that the total detections include '999' vehicles, foreign vehicles and those who for a variety of reasons, we are unable to locate the driver or rider.

Activity	Projected 2008/09	Actual 2007/08
Site visits	3,566	3294
Detected offences	103,600	118,849
Conditional offers	29,934	33,882
High end speeders	1,520	1,323
Speed Choice	48,394	50,303

Table 1 – Operations

2.3 65% of those offered Speed Choice chose this option and we are hoping to improve on the pick up rate by the introduction of on-line booking, which we have recently rolled out. 92% of participants rate the training as either good or excellent.

2.4 Safecam have the following totals for operations within the WoERSP area 2008/09, site visits 3566, total detected offences 103,544, actual conditional offers 29,934, those who travel 20 mph above the speed limit 1520 and those who have elected to attend an educational course 48,394.

2.5 The data shows that whilst site visits were up by 292, the number of detections was down by 15,305 as were conditional offers by 4548 and the educational programme by 2909. A particular cause for concern was the increase in high-end speeders (speed limit + 20 mph), which were up by 197.

2.6 The WoERSP area have a total network of 171 fixed or mobile sites, we currently have 72 either under review, suspended, in the wrong location or requiring either reinstatement of power or new loops which need to be cut and there are 3 requiring a signing update.

2.7 The current Gatso cameras are being phased out by Serco the manufactures over the next few years and will not be replaced in their present form, they will need to be replaced with new and improved Digital technology.

3. Operations for 2009/10

- 3.1 Safecam will re-visit the existing fixed cameras sites and carry out an assessment of damaged or vandalised sites with a view of bringing those sites that can be repaired back into operation as a matter of urgency.
- 3.2 Safecam will replace damaged cameras or consider replacement with digital cameras which appear less prone to vandalism.