

Appendix 2

SAFETY CAMERA VAN OPERATION EXPANSION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Appendix outlines proposals to increase the number of safety camera vans operating within the county.
- 1.2 The current operation of three vans would increase to a total of six.
- 1.3 The proposal is prefaced on the fact that mobile vans provide a more flexible approach to the enforcement of road traffic regulations than a fixed site infrastructure, allowing an enhanced, robust enforcement capability that would influence driver behaviour, drive down casualties and increase the ability to deal with community concerns

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In April 2013 North Yorkshire Police introduced a three van safety camera operation to the roads of York and North Yorkshire.
- 2.2 Managed within the Criminal Justice Department and based at Athena House, York, the team provide full support to the detection and processing of offences captured by the mobile enforcement vehicles. Violations projected to reach 60,000 each year.
- 2.3 The primary focus for vehicle deployments are collision sites where speed has been deemed to be contributory and injuries have been sustained. The vehicles also deploy to sites that have been identified as causing community concern and which have been subjected to validation through the speed management process. In the summer months and when required they also patrol and enforce known motorcycle routes within the County in an effort to influence the riding behaviour of this vulnerable road user.
- 2.4 The team regularly provide details of enforcement locations through local media and provide feedback on the number of violations detected by way of the North Yorkshire Police website. This open and transparent approach has generated some significant positive feedback and anecdotal evidence from camera operators has identified a shift change in vehicle speeds over the last nine months.
- 2.5 It is an acknowledged fact that the benefits of safety cameras with regard casualty reduction cannot be identified in the short term and can only be truly recognised after a five year period. That said the pilot safety camera van

operation which ran for eighteen months prior to the launch showed a number of reductions in collisions at identified sites. In some cases up to a 65% drop.

- 2.6 It is in the light of these figures that consideration is being given to expanding the current operation to further improve road safety in the County

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 The proposal is to increase the current operation to 6 safety camera vans
- 3.2 As outlined in the accompanying decision notice this expansion would be an integral part of the recommendations in the paper which include the formation of a Traffic Bureau and an improved back office technology that would facilitate and support the growth.
- 3.3 Taken together these proposals would provide the efficiency savings and business benefits identified in the notice

4. OUTCOMES

Anticipated benefits:

- Providing increased visibility on collision routes and sites across the County influencing driver behaviour and ultimately reducing casualties
- Increasing compliance of road traffic laws and reducing incidents of anti social road behaviour.
- Responding more comprehensively to all community speed concerns at a regular and sustained level
- Providing more public re-assurance by protecting their communities from the dangers of speeding motorists
- Bringing more offenders to justice for committing offences on the roads of York and North Yorkshire