

Report

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Report to:	Road Safety Forum
Date of Meeting:	3 February 2010
Report by:	Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Effectiveness of Vehicle Activated Signs
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- advise the Forum of the result of an investigation into the effectiveness of the Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) deployed throughout the council area.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Forum is asked to note the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the Forum notes the effectiveness in reducing vehicle speeds of the Vehicle Activated Signs deployed throughout the council area.

3. Background

3.1 "Before" and "after" speeds have been surveyed at 206 locations where VAS have been installed throughout the council area. The "after" speeds were recorded soon after the VAS were erected and again approximately 12 months later to see if drivers' behaviour changed over time.

3.2 Main Findings

- ◆ Immediately after installation mean speeds dropped at 61% of sites with an average reduction of 1.1 mph.
- ◆ Immediately after installation 85%ile speeds dropped at 66% of sites with an average reduction of 1.6 mph.
- ◆ 12 months after installation mean speeds had dropped at 55% of sites with an average reduction of 0.1 mph.
- ◆ 12 months after installation 85%ile speeds had dropped at 71% of sites with an average reduction of 2.2 mph

3.3 To put these reductions in speed into perspective, research indicates that an average of 1 mph reduction in speed equates to a 5% reduction in accidents.

3.4 The above statistics indicate the following

- ◆ As 85%ile speeds dropped at more sites and by a higher speed than mean speeds the VAS were having a greater impact on faster drivers.
- ◆ As 85%ile speeds continued to drop at sites after 12 months, whereas the mean speeds reverted to pre-VAS levels, the VAS were continuing to have a greater impact on faster drivers.

- ◆ The positive results indicate that drivers are not becoming complacent and that VAS are continuing to have a beneficial effect on road safety.

4. Employee Implications

4.1. None

5. Financial Implications

5.1. None

6. Other Implications

6.1 None

7. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

7.1 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore, no impact assessment is required.

7.2 There was also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Colin McDowall
Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

6 January 2010

Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values

- Improve Community safety
- Improve lives of vulnerable children, young people and adults

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like further information please contact:-
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