

REPORT TO: CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 27 FEBRUARY 2025

REPORT ON: CITY DEVELOPMENT – TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT

REPORT NO: 83-2025

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.0 To inform committee of the savings proposed for financial year 2025-26 regarding traffic and road safety assessment activities.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- a. approves a reduction in the traffic and road safety revenue budget from 2025/26 and;
- b. remits the Head of Sustainable Transport & Roads to liaise with Police Scotland on revised arrangements relating to traffic and speed survey information sharing.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The proposals outlined in this report would result in the removal of one post for the City Development staffing establishment from 2025/26 achieving a saving of £47,000 per annum.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 The Road Traffic Act 1988 places a statutory duty on the Council as the Roads Authority to carry out a programme of measures to promote road safety and prevent road accidents. This statutory duty includes the requirement to investigate accidents and set speed limits.

4.2 The Road Traffic Act 1988 also provides powers to Police Scotland to enable enforcement of road traffic offences such as speeding and dangerous driving.

4.3 The Council undertakes traffic and speed surveys utilising on site data recording equipment. Staff resource is deployed to install or relocate equipment and to collate, analyse, and report on data recorded. This data is utilised in the assessment of, and response to, traffic and road safety concerns raised with the Council by members of the public and elected representatives. Dependant of the findings of the surveys, the information is also shared with Police Scotland to inform their enforcement prioritisation considerations.

4.4 The speed survey monitoring equipment also serves a dual purpose as fitted with a Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) sign, typically mounted on lighting columns for a temporary period of a month. In addition to recording vehicle speeds for analysis and record purposes, these signs display a flashing speed warning message when vehicles pass at speeds in excess of the speed limit. While these signs are deployed on a temporary circulating basis throughout the city, they can assist in highlighting vehicle speed compliance awareness to drivers.

4.5 The Council will continue to commission traffic and speed surveys where required as part of the accident investigation and prevention programme, however would not undertake routine traffic and speed surveys in response to reports of speeding incidences. These reports would be directed or forwarded to Police Scotland without assessment of traffic speeds by the Council for their consideration of enforcement.

4.6 The withdrawal of routine speed surveys will reduce the Council's visibility and knowledge of traffic conditions on the road network. Information gained from traffic and speed surveys has enabled Council officers to respond to members of the public and elected representatives

raising concerns over vehicle speeds on particular roads from a data informed position. Likewise, Police Scotland will no longer benefit from Council Officers initial investigation of speeding reports when these reports are forwarded to them for their consideration of enforcement.

- 4.7 Staff resource currently allocated to routine traffic and speed survey activities would be redeployed to alternative roles through natural staff attrition.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment to identify impacts on Equality & Diversity, Fairness & Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. An impact, positive or negative, on one or more of these issues was identified. An appropriate senior manager has checked and agreed with this assessment. A copy of the Integrated Impact Assessment showing the impacts and accompanying benefits of / mitigating factors for them is included as an Appendix to this report.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Council Leadership Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are in agreement with its content.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

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9 January 2025

Integrated Impact Assessment

Committee Report Number: 83-2025

Document Title: Traffic and Road Safety

Document Type: Other

Description:

Report to inform committee of the savings proposed for financial year 2025-26 regarding reduction of traffic and speed surveys.

Intended Outcome:

Cessation of traffic and speed surveys out with accident investigation and prevention programmes.

Period Covered: 01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026

Monitoring:

N/A

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Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

Impacts & Implications

Age: No Impact

Disability: No Impact

Gender Reassignment: No Impact

Marriage & Civil Partnership: No Impact

Pregnancy & Maternity: No Impact

Race / Ethnicity: No Impact

Religion or Belief: No Impact

Sex: No Impact

Sexual Orientation: No Impact

Are any Human Rights not covered by the Equalities questions above impacted by this report?

No

Fairness & Poverty

Geographic Impacts & Implications

Strathmartine:	No Impact
Lochee:	No Impact
Coldside:	No Impact
Maryfield:	No Impact
North East:	No Impact
East End:	No Impact
The Ferry:	No Impact
West End:	No Impact

Household Group Impacts and Implications

Looked After Children & Care Leavers: No Impact

Carers: No Impact

Lone Parent Families: No Impact

Single Female Households with Children: No Impact
Greater number of children and/or young children: No Impact
Pensioners - single / couple: No Impact
Unskilled workers or unemployed: No Impact
Serious & enduring mental health problems: No Impact
Homeless: No Impact
Drug and/or alcohol problems: No Impact
Offenders & Ex-offenders: No Impact

Socio Economic Disadvantage Impacts & Implications

Employment Status: No Impact
Education & Skills: No Impact
Income: No Impact
Caring Responsibilities (including Childcare): No Impact
Affordability and accessibility of services: No Impact
Fuel Poverty: No Impact
Cost of Living / Poverty Premium: No Impact
Connectivity / Internet Access: No Impact
Income / Benefit Advice / Income Maximisation: No Impact
Employment Opportunities: No Impact
Education: No Impact
Health: No Impact
Life Expectancy: No Impact
Mental Health: No Impact
Overweight / Obesity: No Impact
Child Health: No Impact
Neighbourhood Satisfaction: Negative

Speed reduction initiatives may be impacted by the discontinuation of circulating vehicle activated speed signs. While neighbourhood reports of excessive vehicle speeds would be forwarded or directed to Police Scotland without initial speed survey assessment, the proposals outlined in this report will not diminish Police Scotland's enforcement resources to patrol reported speeding concern sites.

Mitigation - Neighbourhood reports of excessive vehicle speeds will be forwarded to Police Scotland to consider enforcement or monitoring.

Transport: No Impact

Environment

Climate Change Impacts

Mitigating Greenhouse Gases: No Impact

Adapting to the effects of climate change: No Impact

Resource Use Impacts

Energy efficiency & consumption: No Impact

Prevention, reduction, re-use, recovery or recycling of waste: No Impact

Sustainable Procurement: No Impact

Transport Impacts

Accessible transport provision: No Impact

Sustainable modes of transport: Negative

The 2025/26 Council Public Budget consultation responses highlighted some concerns that reducing road safety measures would lead to increased dangerous driving, particularly affecting pedestrians, and cyclists.

Mitigation - The council has a continuing accident investigation and prevention programme, which will progress road safety interventions at identified accident cluster sites.

Natural Environment Impacts

Air, land & water quality: No Impact

Biodiversity: No Impact

Open & green spaces: No Impact

Built Environment Impacts

Built Heritage: No Impact

Housing: No Impact

Is the proposal subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

No further action is required as it does not qualify as a Plan, Programme or Strategy as defined by the Environment Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Corporate Risk

Corporate Risk Impacts

Political Reputational Risk: Negative

Risk of public dissatisfaction associated with the non-investigation of excessive vehicle speeds reported.

Mitigation - Reports of speeding and road safety concerns associated with driver behaviour or compliance will be made to Police Scotland to consider enforcement or monitoring. Under the Road Traffic Act 1988, Police Scotland hold the enforcement power with regard to speeding offences.

Economic/Financial Sustainability / Security & Equipment: No Impact

Social Impact / Safety of Staff & Clients: No Impact

Technological / Business or Service Interruption: No Impact

Environmental: No Impact

Legal / Statutory Obligations: No Impact

Organisational / Staffing & Competence: No Impact

Corporate Risk Implications & Mitigation:

The risk implications associated with the subject matter of this report are "business as normal" risks and any increase to the level of risk to the Council is minimal. This is due either to the risk being inherently low or as a result of the risk being transferred in full or in part to another party on a fair and equitable basis. The subject matter is routine and has happened many times before without significant impact.