

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

AVERAGE CAMERAS TO REPLACE GATSOS



Transport secretary says average speed cameras are a fairer way to catch motorists. Average speed cameras are set to be rolled out across the UK to replace Gatsos, it has been revealed. **Geoff Hoon, the transport secretary**, said the traditional cameras were ‘arbitrary’ and ‘unfair’ and would be replaced by the newer technology. **In an interview with the Sunday Times** he said that so-called ‘spot’ cameras, which measure speed from a fixed point, were not as effective as average speed cameras.

*‘Spot speed cameras are seen by some people as unfair because when you are driving along **you perhaps don’t notice your speed**,’ Hoon said. ‘What is interesting about average-speed cameras is that [limits] are **largely observed by motorists**.’*

In the interview Hoon said he was looking to reduce the drink-drive limit and giving **the police powers to issue (retrospective) tougher fixed penalty notices to motorists traveling at dangerous speeds**. But Hoon said that he is no car hater and in fact travels 15,000 miles a year. *‘I am an enthusiastic motorist. I enjoy driving, I know most people enjoy driving.’*

The PPP comments ... The key points made BUT not understood by Hoon are highlighted! We were advised of this change nearly a year ago. The ‘investment’ indicates that speed is still their primary obsession with no change in the national road safety policy priorities. In North Wales the problem is abusive use of mobile cameras, which no doubt will continue. We can expect average speed cameras to appear on the A55, CS Geraint Anwyl suggested this late last year as a nonsensical response to a spate of incidents, many on Rhualt hill. These cameras will slow traffic down by at least 5-10 mph on good days, causing tail-gating, lane hogging and incidents. I.e all negative effects. **Speedo watching must increase if drivers are continuously concerned about their speed on a fast clear road AND with a speedo error of up to +10%. NOTE spot cameras were supposed to be at and deal with incident black spots!! NOTE the decapitated biker was driving at dangerous speeds for several hours before his death!!**