

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

PR522: Speed Cameras in rapid decline?

News from safespeed. ... for immediate release

Freedom of information requests placed by MCN and revealed in today's issue indicate a significant and widespread reduction in speed camera activity this year compared to last year.

In nine counties that have so far responded, mobile speed cameras were deployed for **19% fewer hours in June 2007 than June 2006.**

Paul Smith, founder of SafeSpeed.org.uk, said: *"So it looks like speed cameras are finally fading away. That's good, but it's nowhere near good enough. The decline of speed cameras will be a relief to motorists, but it is essential to road safety that we scrap speed cameras - with considerably ceremony - if we are to start to shift the dangerously false road safety dogma that supports them."*

*"This reduction in speed camera activity is the direct and deliberate result of the new funding arrangements from Department for Transport. It is perfectly clear - and not at all surprising - that Department for Transport has lost confidence in the speed camera programme. **I am extremely angry that they do not have the courage or the decency to come out and say so. Clearly they would rather save face than save lives.**"*

"Speed cameras have failed as a road safety policy. We must scrap the lot and move on to policies that will actually save lives on our roads. All our speed cameras are in the wrong places - they should be in the scrap yard."

ORTANT - MCN Copyright:

We have spoken to MCN and they have some significant copyright in the story and the data. They give permission to use the data PROVIDED THAT MCN is cited as the source. MCN is continuing to receive data from other camera partnerships. MCN article on line:

<http://www.motorcyclenews.com/MCN/News/newsresults/videos/2007/july/jul1307speedcamerausefalling/>

The PPP comments ... We hope this trend continues and we expect that Motorcyclists will not respond by driving dangerously ... We are only too aware of the consequences of this behaviour on the country roads of North Wales where another rider died recently.

The abusive and often illegal Camera activity by Arrive Alive needs to be replaced by skilled, sensible and proportional policing of the roads by frequent highway patrols.