



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

SCAMERA MAKES £72,000 IN THREE WEEKS



Over 1,200 drivers have been caught speeding in just three weeks by a single **Lancashire mobile scamera**, it has been reported. This has raked in £72,000 – seven times the average Lancashire speed camera's revenue in a year.

Police set the device up in **a lay-by on the 70mph A56 bypass** to enforce a 50mph limit during roadworks. **The device will be there for another 13 weeks** while a £2.8million project to lay a new road surface and lighting is completed.

The camera is placed just after a bend and it is mainly used during rush hour.

Ribble Valley MP Nigel Evans told the Lancashire Telegraph: *'They really are raking the cash in on this camera. It is as if they have hit the jackpot by putting this camera there. 'It is obscene how many people have been caught. I think for those motorists that were doing under 70mph a warning letter would have sufficed. Why did they not put an electronic warning sign in place to slow the traffic down rather than a camera that is hitting the already hard-pressed motorist further?'*

Paul Watters of the AA said: 'Our standpoint is that the best speed enforcement device in roadworks is one that operates just when there are workers in the road. If the road is free from obstacles the cameras should not be in place. If the cameras are catching such a large number of drivers then maybe the local Highways Agency needs to re-enforce the signage around the camera to warn about the reduction in the speed limit.'

Claire Armstrong, co-founder of campaign group Safe Speed, said: 'Reducing speed from 70mph to 50 in many cases is unnecessary and provides no additional safety. You can't measure safe driving in miles per hour. This is not a scheme designed to increase safety but is designed to increase revenues from drivers and continues the persecution of motorists.'

The PPP comments....Transport Research Ltd (TRL) showed in a major study that speed cameras significantly increased accident rates and severity at road works. There is a 55% increase in injury crash risk for Gatso type cameras in motorway road works. This report was deliberately hidden from public view. This link tells the whole story <http://www.safespeed.org.uk/trl595.html>

The Welsh Highways agency is using **portable GATSO speed cameras on the many major road works on the A55** (currently **near Halkyn**, previously at Llanfairfechan). We have been told that these **road works on the A55 were sheduled for over 20 years and there is still 10 years to go! AT WHAT ENORMOUS COST?**