



STATISTICAL PRESS RELEASE

DRD ROADS SERVICE PILOT TRAFFIC CALMING SURVEY 2007

17 January 2008

The main aim of this pilot survey was to produce a report to Roads Service on how their customers in the Eastern and Southern Roads Divisions feel they manage traffic calming schemes in terms of planning/consultation and construction. They were also interested in whether the public view the schemes as beneficial.

Key Points

PLANNING/ CONSULTATION

- Over four fifths of respondents in both Divisions said they were, in general terms, in favour of traffic calming measures being implemented in their street/ area.
- Respondents in the Eastern Roads Division (ERD) were more likely than their Southern Roads Division (SRD) counterparts to say they were given an opportunity to express their views on the proposed traffic calming measures before the work commenced (49% and 33% respectively).

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- In both Divisions, respondents who said they were not given the opportunity to express their views on the proposed traffic calming measures before the work commenced, were over 6 times as likely to rate the overall quality of the consultation process as poor as those who said they were given an opportunity to express their views.

CONSTRUCTION

- Over two thirds of respondents from the ERD and SRD said they felt that the construction work was carried out quickly and efficiently.
- Over a third of respondents in the ERD and SRD said they were told in advance when construction would begin.
- In both Divisions approximately a tenth of respondents said that the construction process caused them unacceptable disruption.

EVALUATION

- Almost three fifths of respondents in both Divisions said they felt that it is safer for people walking/ cycling/crossing the road now that the work has been completed.
- Overall, approximately three quarters of respondents from both Divisions said they would support the provision of traffic calming measures in their street/ area now if there weren't any.
- 83 percent of respondents in both Divisions said they would like to see the results of on-going monitoring of the effect of the scheme on vehicle speeds.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Roads Service traffic management staff were asked to forward at least 4 traffic calming schemes from each Division. This was to ensure that, assuming a 25% response rate, there would be a large enough achieved sample to provide robust and reliable results. The schemes put forward for the pilot survey were:

Eastern Division

Harberton Park, Belfast
Loopland Park, Belfast
Devenish Drive, Belfast
Silverbirch Area, Bangor

TOTAL - 1,590 households

Southern Division

Lisanelly Lane, Armagh
Brownstown West, Portadown
Scotch Street Village, Portadown
Brentwood Area, Newtownards
Manse Road/Harbour Road, Kilkeel
Ashgrove Area, Newry

TOTAL – 1,392 households

This covered 2,982 households

2. The survey questionnaires were delivered, one per household, during the week commencing 22 January 2007 asking for an adult respondent. However, no instructions were given as to which adult should complete the questionnaire. Further questionnaires and reminder letters were delivered during the week commencing 19 February. The deadline for return of the questionnaires was 28 February 2007.
3. Of the 1,019 respondents, 56% were from the Eastern Roads Division (ERD) and 44% were from the Southern Roads Division (SRD).

4. This survey was completely confidential as no names or addresses were asked for.
5. The full report presents the findings of a household survey, the results of which have not been weighted.
6. Hard and electronic copies of the full 'Pilot Traffic Calming Survey Report' are available free of charge from:

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