



**Kent
Police**



Mr. Dennis Fallon
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Date: 22 September 2011
FOI Ref: 11/08/61

Dear Mr. Fallon,

Freedom Of Information Request 11/08/61

I write in response to your application under the Freedom of Information Act received on 24 August 2011. I am now able to respond as follows:

I would like to request a FOI disclosure which is basically to understand the annual money payments to Serco and Gatso for the calibration and maintenance of cameras, staff training, and how the speed is calculated as part of the secondary check.

Q1. How many fixed post Gatso (FPG) and Gatso Red Light (GRL) cameras were in use, on an annual basis, by your partnership in the past three financial years?

The table below details the number of Gatsometer speed enforcement sites and Gatsometer red light enforcement sites that were operated by Kent Police during each of the financial years requested.

Financial Year	Number of enforcement sites
2008/09	34 fixed post Gatso housings
2009/10	32 fixed post Gatso housings
2010/11	31 fixed post Gatso housings.

Q2. For these cameras, for the past three financial years, what were the total cost amounts paid (TCAP) for the annual calibration of these cameras, identifying the TCAP to intermediate agents such as Serco and the company Gatsometer B.V, and the additional amounts of V.A.T added?

The following table details the net and gross amounts paid for work on the cameras for the last three financial years. All payments were made to Serco.

Financial Year	Net	Gross
2008/09	£9,047.50	£10,532.06
2009/10	£7,305.50	£8,488.13
2010/11	£2,372.14	£2,823.80

The calibration costs cannot be extracted from the general costs which include maintenance and repair. Please note that depending on when the work is carried out, invoices can cross the financial year period. As such, purchase orders in 2010/11 may not have been invoiced until the new financial year. A number of cameras required calibration in February and March this year, for which payment will be made in the current financial year.

Q3. Please confirm if the partnership have ownership of these cameras, paid in full, or any other arrangement.

The Partnership is not an entity in its own right and therefore does not own assets in the Partnership's name. Kent Police owns the cameras on behalf of the Partnership. The respective housings are owned by the Highways Authority.

Q4. Please confirm if the calibration contracts (CC) have been agreed for a fixed term with break penalty clauses or negotiated annually, if the CC are inclusive of a greater contract regarding maintenance, and who signed the contracts on behalf of the partnership.

There are no specific calibration contracts and calibration is arranged through the equipment manufacturers or their approved third parties.

Q5. After the cameras have been returned following calibration please confirm if, apart from the calibration certificate, Gatsometer B.V provide a report on any faults detected and items replaced and, if so, please identify the items, including batteries, that have required replacement.

The cameras are returned with a calibration certificate. No report of any faults detected is provided, however, if there were any faults with the equipment, it would not receive a calibration certificate.

Q6 After calibration, please confirm if the cameras are returned with a shutter speed of two photographs at intervals of 0.5 seconds, and if your Camera Enforcement Officers make any adjustments to the shutter speed or flash setting prior to reinstallation and, if so, what are the setting adjustments?

The shutter speed is variable by light conditions, automatically adjusted by the camera. The interval between the photographs is set at 0.5 seconds and this is verified by the camera operators when conducting the test shots at the beginning and end of each film. This 0.5 second interval reading is imprinted on the test shot photograph.

Q7. Regarding the secondary check viewing, please advise how the viewing staff are trained for their task, who does the training, are certificates of completion provided, and are the staff given post training assessments or hard copy reference documentation. Is the work of the viewing staff audited or reviewed at intervals?

All staff responsible for the verification are trained and issued with a certificate. Dip testing of verifications is conducted.

Q8. For FPG please confirm the distance between the calibration lines on the road which are part of the secondary check, so that one can calculate the speed if five lines are passed.

The distance between the secondary check lines is 5ft.

Thank you for your interest in Kent Police. If you have any further queries concerning your request, or the application of the Freedom of Information Act in general, please contact this office quoting the reference number shown above.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Birchley
Freedom of Information Administrator

Your right to complain

We take our responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act seriously but, if you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to complain. We will conduct an internal review to investigate the matter and endeavor to reply within 20 working days. If your appeal concerns the decision to apply an exemption, it would assist the review if you would outline why you believe the exemption does not apply.

You may lodge your complaint by writing to:

Freedom of Information
Kent Police Headquarters
Sutton Road,
Maidstone
Kent
ME15 9BZ

Or by e-mailing freedomofinformation@kent.pnn.police.uk

If you are still dissatisfied following our internal review, you have the right under section 50 of the Act to complain directly to the Information Commissioner. Before considering your complaint, the Information Commissioner would normally expect you to have exhausted the complaints procedures provided by Kent Police.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

FOI Compliance Team (complaints)
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF