

Request reference: 5031/11

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?

2008/2009: 56 Gatso speed, 7 Gatso red light
2009/2010: 55 Gatso speed, 11 Gatso red light
2010/2011: 53 Gatso speed, 9 Gatso red light

This is the number of cameras used during the year, not the number of cameras owned, and may include cameras loaned from Serco.

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 ?

Calibration and repairs are conducted by Gatsometer. They charge Serco for this work and Serco recharge West Midlands Police. West Midlands Police pay Serco, not Gatsometer directly. West Midlands Police do not pay VAT and this is not included in the following costs.

2008/2009: £36,964
2009/2010: £36,292
2010/2011: £27,944

These include the basic cost of annual calibration and any repair/maintenance work conducted during the annual calibration.

In addition to the above, costs for repairs and recalibration during the year are:

2008/2009: £6,800
2009/2010: £12,581
2010/2011: £0

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

Gatso cameras are fully owned by West Midlands Police. If a camera is undergoing repair a loan camera may be used in its place.

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 is no contract between West Midlands Police and Serco specifically for calibration and maintenance of cameras. All work is carried out on a purchase order basis.

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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.

Gatsometer do not provide a report on faults detected, but any repair work or parts replaced during calibration are listed on the invoice. Parts that have been replaced during calibration in the last three financial years are:

- Tight stripe
- Velvet lining
- Back light
- Multi fuse
- Threshold pair of end parts
- Safety disk
- DCE housing
- Compression springs
- Washers
- Battery indicator lamp
- IC clock
- Rafi lamp
- Tension springs
- Connector memory card
- Antenna front plate duratem
- PCB interface
- Bolt
- Cellular rubber light proof
- Hole plug
- Seal
- Intermediate plate
- C8 resistor
- Optos

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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?

With a Gatsometer BV Type 24AUS Speed detection camera the time interval between the two exposures is operator set at an interval of 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9 or 1.0 secs.

With a Gatsometer BV Type 36RLC the interval between the two exposures is operator set at an interval of between 0.5 and 2.0 secs on 0.1 sec intervals.

Enforcement Officers will ensure that this is set correctly prior to a period of enforcement.

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?

There are no dedicated viewing staff within the Camera Enforcement Unit. Viewing of films can be done by the enforcement officers or any other trained member of staff. Training of viewers is carried out by a supervisor and no certificates are issued. Viewing staff are issued with a reference sheet showing equivalent speeds in miles per hour for metres travelled. The work of the viewing staff is monitored by a supervisor on a monthly basis, during which error rates are checked and staff are informed of any issues and reassessed if necessary.

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 secondary check marks are two metres apart. If a vehicle has passed five lines (10 metres) in 0.5 seconds, its speed is 20 metres per second or 45 miles per hour.