

## Briefing: DfT Monitoring and Evaluation Programme, 2015 Update: Moving Britain Ahead

The Monitoring and Evaluation Programme lists the DfT's priority projects for monitoring and evaluation with information about their activities to date. This is part of the 2013 Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy.

The full document can be accessed here:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/468420/monitoring-and-evaluation-programme-2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/468420/monitoring-and-evaluation-programme-2015.pdf)

The update includes a number of points related to transport safety:

### *Major Projects*

- **Roads Reform:** Brought about changes to the management of the Strategic Road Network. Two bodies were established to generate and publish monitoring and evaluation evidence related to the reforms.

These are the Monitor (a new function in the renamed Office of Road and Rail (ORR) which will assess Highways England's performance), and the Watchdog (a new function within the renamed Transport Focus that will gather views of users). Both will produce publically available evidence. DfT is also putting in place an overarching evaluation based on this evidence and information from Highways England and others.

### *Other significant monitoring and evaluation activities*

- **Cycling Cities Ambition Grant:** To support cycling through capital investment in eight English cities. Evaluation aims to assess impact of investment on a number of key themes. A Monitoring Plan has been developed and agreed. The eight cities will continue to collect data and make it available.
- **Drug Driving:** Main stage of evaluation began in 2014 and aims to assess implementation, operation and short-term impacts of the section 5A drug-driving offence. Data collection has taken place and a baseline stage will be completed in late 2015. A final report will follow in late-2016 to provide early analysis and recommendations.
- **20mph speed limits:** DfT published guidance for local authorities on issues to consider when deciding to set lower speed limits in local areas. In 2014 DfT began an evaluation to assess the effectiveness of 20mph speed limits. A significant amount of research activity has already taken place and the evaluation is due to complete in late 2017.
- **National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme:** Main stage of evaluation of speed awareness course will begin in Autumn 2015. Will assess the course's impact on attitudes, offending and collisions as well as a cost benefit analysis. Expected to report at the end of 2016/17 financial year and will provide a model to evaluate other NDORS courses.

- **Careless Driving and Fixed Penalty Notices:** Came into effect in August 2013. Evaluation being conducted to assess how effective this has been to the police, general road users and those who have been subject to penalisation.
- **Longer semi-trailers:** a trial was launched in 2012, scheduled to run for 10 years. Expected to save both CO2 and £33 million. Evaluation of the trial is to test the impact of longer trailers on efficiency, emissions and safety. Evidence to date is positive. Substantial reduction in vehicle km with no resulting increase in casualty rates.