



# Department for Transport

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## National Road Traffic Census

To Whom it May Concern,

The purpose of this letter is to introduce our contractor, WSP and its Supply Chain (Intelligent Data, Nationwide Data Collection and Tracsis), who are appointed by this Department to undertake National Road Traffic Census Counts across Great Britain.

The data collected are used to produce the official National Statistics on road traffic in Great Britain, which are used amongst other things for:

- Government decision making for major transport projects;
- Transport planning at devolved government, regional and local levels;
- Calculation of funding settlements for local authorities;
- Transport modelling and forecasting;
- Calculating road accident casualty rates;
- Calculating Greenhouse Gas emissions and modelling air quality.

Outside of central Government, users of the data include Local Authorities, academics, transport planners and consultants, businesses and the media. The summary statistics are published here <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/road-traffic-statistics>, and the underlying count data are made publicly available here <https://roadtraffic.dft.gov.uk/#6/52.201/-11.975/basemap-regions-countpoints>.

Around 8,000 12-hour counts are carried out each year, between March and November, at sites we select to give a representative picture of the national road network. The majority of the counts are conducted manually by Traffic Enumerator staff, positioned at suitable roadside locations. However, if manual counting is not considered to be practical for safety or logistical reasons, some counts are conducted using lightweight video cameras temporarily installed on mountings purpose-designed not to damage street furniture.

One or more locations within your authority have been selected for survey. Subject to our Suppliers providing all required supporting documentation, we would be grateful for your co-operation in enabling our counts to proceed on their scheduled dates. If you would like to discuss any concerns about this then please do get in touch with our contractor.

Please also note that with a view to making such co-operation easier, our suppliers can now offer you access to a bespoke web-based tool, which can be used to view our live counting schedule in both Excel and map-based format - should you wish to take advantage of this then please email [dfnrtc@wsp.com](mailto:dfnrtc@wsp.com).

Yours faithfully,

**Jeremy Grove**