

Letter to the Editor

Sorry speeders

Sir, I have followed the correspondence about speed cameras with mounting frustration (letters, Aug 4). The point being missed is that indiscriminate implementation of speed cameras by the previous regime destroyed the credibility of this excellent technology. As every police officer knows, any law, rule or regulation that fails to generate the respect of the majority is rapidly met with contempt and eventually is quite rightly circumvented or ignored.

The “law” of the speed camera was soon exposed as primarily a revenue generator. As with CCTV in public places, which has also failed to increase our safety and quality of life, speed cameras should be more strategically utilised alongside other proven technologies, the simplest and most effective of which surprisingly gets no mention from my fellow *Times* readers.

My particular interest is in safeguarding communities blighted by the historic main roads that scythe through their very heart. Controlling traffic speeds in such locations is simple and affordable. On entering, for example, the 30mph zone, every vehicle has its average speed monitored. In the centre of the town or village is a traffic light that remains green if all drivers adhere to the limit. The moment the limit is exceeded by any driver the light turns red. The waiting time is directly related to the amount of the excess speed. At a stroke the benefit of speeding is removed and the offender pays not with money, but a far more valuable commodity – their time.

To spice things up a bit, the offender’s registration appears on a screen next to the traffic light. There may even be an additional benefit to society with a reappearance of the word “sorry”. Or am I hoping for too much now?

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Bristol

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Tekst 2 Sorry speeders

- 3p 2 Geef van elk van de volgende beweringen aan of deze wel of niet overeenkomt met de inhoud van de brief.
- 1 The random use of speed cameras has an adverse effect on drivers' attitude to speeding.
 - 2 Speed cameras are said to be more about generating funds than about saving lives.
 - 3 The technology used in speed cameras has been proven inadequate.
 - 4 Speeders should be fined instead of facing extra queuing time at traffic lights.
 - 5 According to the writer the green wave light strategy contributes to road safety.
- Noteer het nummer van elke bewering, gevolgd door "wel" of "niet".

Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.