RESEARCH SUMMARY

Title Trial of roadside safety mirrors for cycle visibility

Objective To evaluate the roadside safety mirror trial and assess

awareness amongst Large Goods Vehicles (LGV) drivers, car

drivers and cyclists

Date September 2010

Methodology Telephone interviews with 51 LGV drivers and face to face

interviews with 20 cyclists and 20 car/van drivers all of whom

used the trial junctions.

Key findings

- Almost half of the LGV drivers that had driven through the trial junctions recalled the roadside safety mirrors when prompted and over a quarter stated that they used them.
- A third of cyclists and car/van drivers recalled seeing the mirrors.
- Most LGV drivers understood the purpose of the mirrors and almost all stated that they would improve the safety at the junctions for cyclists and LGV drivers. Cyclists and car/van drivers showed a similar understanding.
- The majority of LGV drivers said they would use the junctions fitted with a roadside safety mirror differently but only a minority believed that cyclists would alter their behaviour due to the mirrors.
- None of the LGV drivers said that they had any problems with the mirrors.
 When specifically asked about glare or confusion from reflections caused by roadside safety mirrors, only three respondents reported any issues; all of which were considered to be slight.
- Majority of the LGV drivers stated that they would use the roadside mirrors at junctions to help look out for cyclists and they would feel more confident in driving safely around cyclists.
- Majority of the cyclists would not change their behaviour as a result of the roadside safety mirrors. However the minority who said they would felt that they would feel more confident and be more visible to other road users.

Job number: 10016