

**Report of the Chief Constable to the Chair and Members
of the Operational Policing Panel
21st July 2011**

**Executive & Presenting Officer: Mr Sean White, Assistant Chief Constable
(Crime & Operations)**

Status: For information

Speed Awareness Course Update

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a summary of Speed Awareness Course provision between 1st January 2011 and 31st May 2011.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are recommended to note the contents of the report.

3. Reasons

3.1 In June 2009, an interim scheme was introduced to provide a Speed Awareness Module of the National Driver Offender Re-Training Scheme (NDORS) within the Cleveland area. The capital scheme in respect of this module was ratified in July 2009 and officially launched in September 2009. The progress of the scheme to September 2010 was subject of a previous report to the Operational Policing Panel.

3.2 With effect from 1st April 2011 the thresholds for national speed awareness element of the NDORS scheme increased in line with ACPO guidelines. The course is now offered to members of the public who have exceeded the speed limit by margins of between 10%+2 and 10%+9. The course is offered as an alternative disposal method to the issue of a fixed penalty notice and penalty points on their licence.

- 3.3 Under the current regime Hartlepool Borough Council, as course provider, charge £80 per course, £40 of which is paid to Road Safety Support Limited (RSS). RSS retain £5 as a flat rate administration charge and return £35 to the Cleveland Police.
- 3.4 Between 1st January 2011 and 31st May 2011, 5216 clients have attended courses compared with 2760 for the same period in 2010 as shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.5 93% of those offenders who initially indicate a desire to attend a course actually go on to complete with 7% declining and being referred back to Cleveland Police. The gender and age breakdown of those attending the course is shown in Appendix 2.
- 3.6 The training being delivered meets the national model and it is anticipated that in the coming months the scheme will be extended to include a series of course options which police forces can use as an alternative to prosecution for a range of reportable traffic offences i.e. use of mobile telephones, non-wearing of seatbelts etc.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial

There are no further financial implications arising from this report.

4.2 Diversity and Equal Opportunities

Due consideration has been given to diversity and equality issues within the scheme. There are no diversity or equal opportunities implications arising from this report.

4.3 Human Rights Act

Due consideration has been given to the Human Rights Act and it is believed that the scheme is both proportionate and necessary to assist with casualty reduction and ongoing road safety initiatives.

4.4 Sustainability

There are no further sustainability implications arising from this report.

4.5 Risk

Given the withdrawal of the Department for Transport (DfT) road safety specific funding, the sustainability of the NDORS scheme is dependent upon the level of client numbers using the scheme

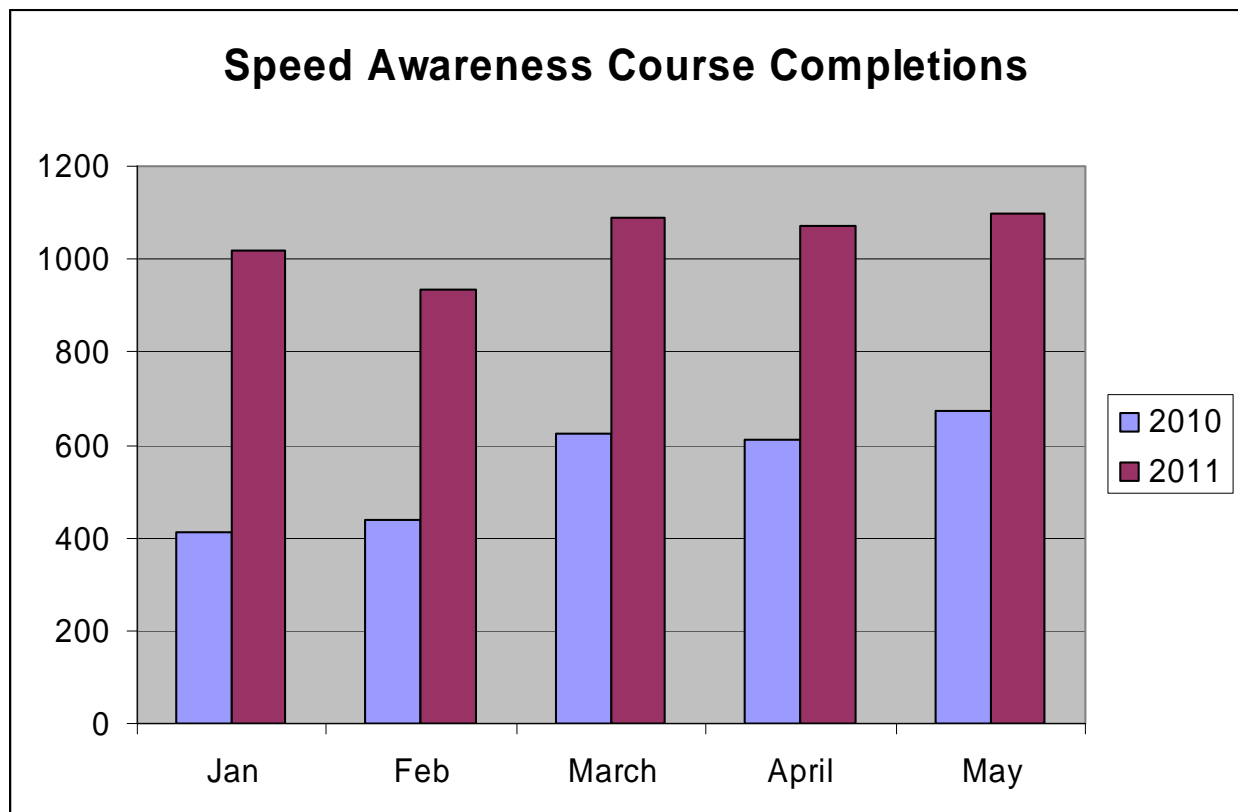
5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Whilst funding from the DfT has been withdrawn early indications suggest that the take up rate for the scheme is sufficient to sustain all areas of the business.
- 5.2 The client uptake has continued to increase incrementally throughout the year and comparing the number of clients January to May 2010 against those attending Speed Awareness Courses January to May 2011 the figures show a 89% increase, this increase has ensured that current Speed Awareness Courses are fully booked. The feed back received from clients who have attended these courses remains extremely positive with clients reporting that the course is a worth while experience, which no doubt will have an impact on their manner of driving in the future.

Sean Price
Chief Constable

Appendix 1: Course Completion Comparison 2010 and 2011

Month	Cleveland Client Completions		External Client Completions		Total Clients Completing Course	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
Jan	366	926	45	94	411	1020
Feb	378	831	59	105	437	936
Mar	569	974	55	117	624	1091
Apr	553	919	60	154	613	1073
May	625	946	50	155	675	1096
Total	2491	4596	269	625	2760	5217



Appendix 2: Client Group Gender breakdown

Client Group Breakdown : clients attending courses between 01/01/2011 and 31/05/2011				
Age Group	Male	Female	Unspecified	Total
17-20	35	21	92	148
21-25	84	49	268	401
26-30	109	53	256	418
31-34	77	55	223	355
35-39	137	72	343	552
40-45	224	103	513	840
46-50	198	76	403	677
51-55	172	57	342	571
56-60	139	46	270	455
61-65	135	34	202	371
66-70	102	16	104	222
70+	93	15	99	207
Total	1505	597	3115	5217