



Appendix two – About the audit

Audit objective

This audit assessed whether the mobile speed camera program is effectively managed to maximise road safety benefits across the NSW road network.

Audit criteria

We addressed the audit objective by addressing the following criteria:

1. Mobile speed camera site selection, prioritisation and hours of operation are designed to maximise road safety benefits and are integrated with, or complement, other enforcement strategies including police patrols, radar coverage and other camera programs.
2. The sites selected and their hours of operation are regularly reviewed, in conjunction with key stakeholders, to maintain their effectiveness.
3. The mobile speed camera program is delivering on the commitments within the Speed Camera Strategy.
4. Contracts with camera operators specify requirements necessary for effective speed enforcement including camera locations, hours of operation, accuracy, evidence gathering, and how results are to be communicated.
5. Assurance processes are in place which are designed to ensure mobile cameras are operated, located and scheduled in accordance with the camera scheduling and contract requirements.

Audit scope and focus

In assessing the criteria, we examined:

1. contracts with mobile camera operators
2. research and practice on the best approach to mobile speed camera enforcement
3. liaison and information sharing between Roads and Maritime Services, Transport for NSW, NSW Police and other key stakeholders
4. controls in place to gauge compliance with contracts
5. results of vehicle speed monitoring across the entire road network
6. the government's stated policy framework on mobile speed cameras
7. mobile speed camera operations in other jurisdictions.

Audit Exclusions

The audit did not:

- examine the effectiveness of other speed and red-light speed cameras, although we may comment where they interact with, or are relevant to, the mobile speed camera program
- examine the effectiveness of police patrol and radar enforcement, although we may comment where it interacts with, or is relevant to, the mobile speed camera program
- conduct actual AO observation of contractor compliance. Rather, we are examining how Roads and Maritime Services assures itself that its contractors are complying
- question the merits of government policy objectives.

Audit approach

1. Interviewing staff from the Roads and Maritime Services and Transport for NSW responsible for:
 - determining the sites/locations of mobile speed cameras
 - determining the hours of operation of mobile speed cameras
 - developing/generating mobile speed camera schedules
 - overseeing the tendering, awarding and operation of mobile speed camera contracts
 - reviewing the effectiveness of mobile speed cameras.
2. Interviewing mobile speed camera contractor management and camera operators at some locations.
3. Interviewing other stakeholders who have a role in the mobile speed camera program, including NSW Police.
4. Reviewing policies and procedures for determining camera location, hours of operation and effectiveness.
5. Reviewing mobile speed camera contracts.
6. Analysing data trends in speeding, crashes and infringements.

The audit approach was complemented by quality assurance processes within the Audit Office to ensure compliance with professional standards.

Audit methodology

Our performance audit methodology is designed to satisfy Australian Audit Standard ASAE 3500 Performance Engagements and other professional standards. The standards require the audit team to comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance and draw a conclusion on the audit objective. Our processes have also been designed to comply with requirements specified in the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* and the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge the co-operation and assistance provided by our liaison staff from Transport for NSW and Roads and Maritime Services.

Audit cost

Including staff costs, printing costs and overheads, the estimated cost of the audit is \$226,000.