

Transport for London

Surface Transport Panel

Subject: Pedestrian Countdown

Date: 26 February 2013

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to update the Surface Transport Panel on the continued rollout of Pedestrian Countdown at Traffic Signals (PCaTS) in London.
- 1.2 The Panel is asked to note the progress of the Pedestrian Countdown rollout project.

2 Background

- 2.1 Independent research, commissioned by TfL in 2009, demonstrated that around two-thirds of pedestrians did not understand what the blackout period at a pedestrian crossing meant. This led to TfL trialling PCaTS technology at eight locations across London, in June 2010.
- 2.2 PCaTS reduces confusion and uncertainty for pedestrians by displaying how long they have left to cross the road when the green figure goes out. The digital displays count down the time between the green figure symbol going out and the red figure appearing. This helps make it clear to pedestrians how much time they have left to cross the road safely, helping them to make more informed choices.
- 2.3 Research from the trial showed that a majority of pedestrians surveyed about the trial (83 per cent) supported the PCaTS technology, as well as 94 per cent of mobility impaired users and 79 per cent of children. Crucially, the study showed that there were no negative impacts on safety during the trial.

3 Overview

- 3.1 Following the trial, TfL announced the planned installation of PCaTS at locations across London.
- 3.2 Approximately 200 sites will be installed across the capital by 2014.
- 3.3 Outside TfL's planned programme of sites, the Traffic Directorate is also working with London boroughs to install PCaTS at sites nominated by the boroughs.

4 Recommendation

4.1 The Panel is asked to NOTE the paper.

5 Contact

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