

# Background to the Safety Camera System

**Te Ara ki te Ora | Road to Zero Vision**  
A New Zealand where no one is killed or seriously injured in road crashes. This means no death or serious injury is acceptable while travelling on our roads.

In November 2019, the Government announced the Road to Zero strategy. The strategy makes it clear that Deaths and Serious Injuries (DSIs) should not be an inevitable cost of travelling in New Zealand.

**Tackling Unsafe Speeds** is a key action of the Road to Zero strategy and is designed to address unsafe speeds on New Zealand roads.

It comprises three major components:

1. The implementation of a new regulatory framework for speed management
2. Transitioning to lower speed limits around schools
3. **Adopting a new approach to road safety cameras** to reduce excessive speeds on our highest risk roads.

## Adopting a new approach to safety cameras

### Includes

- The transfer of safety cameras and associated offence processing functions from NZ Police to Waka Kotahi. Cabinet decided that transferring responsibility for safety cameras to Waka Kotahi would allow better integration with the speed management planning process\*.
- Expanding the safety camera network significantly over the next 10 years (across both state highways and local roads), using current and new technology.
- Using a best-practice mixed model of signed and unsigned cameras, as appropriate.

The implementation of the new approach to safety cameras is expected to deliver a 4% reduction in DSIs by 2030.

*\*Under the new Setting of Speed Limits 2022 regulatory framework about to come into force each Road Controlling Authority will need to cover in their Speed Management Plan how safe and appropriate speed limits have been considered alongside investment in safety infrastructure and safety cameras.*

## Safety Camera Programme

The decision to transfer ownership and operation of safety camera functions to Waka Kotahi means Waka Kotahi must be ready and able to operate the safety camera system at the point of transfer. A programme team is in place to ensure the work needed to get Waka Kotahi ready to deliver the safety camera function is planned and implemented.

The transfer will require Waka Kotahi to introduce and operate new technology and processes, and to consider the organisational set up to house and operate the roles needed to deliver the functions in the system –therefore the programme of work spans people, process and technology.

Working with the safety camera programme team is an important aspect of the safety camera roles we are currently recruiting.

For more background information read about the [Tackling Unsafe Speeds programme](#)

