

Joint Transportation Board

10th September 2013

Drovers Roundabout - Update

At its meeting on the 12th March 2013 the Board received an update on Drovers Roundabout from John Farmer, Major Capital Projects Manager at KCC.

At that meeting he advised that the requested independent review of the Drovers Roundabout would commence shortly after KCC's new highway consultants (Amey) started work on 1st April 2013. He had, however, looked at some of the more specific issues on signals, louvres on traffic lights and the possibility for installing yellow boxes at the roundabout.

The signals had been set up under the SCOOT system and were considered to be working effectively. However they were being operated under another system, MOVA, as a trial to see which the most effective system was for this junction. This was a big signal junction and would always be monitored proactively. The intention was to revalidate the signals which meant looking at the underlying foundation of the set-up in terms of approach flows and lane use distribution. It was a complicated junction with five dual carriageway arms and the layout was always a balance between a variety of constraints and so they were limited in what they could do to change things, but all efforts were being made to make the signals as efficient as they could be.

He understood the frustration about the louvres and whilst some adjustments might be possible, the underlying reason was driven by safety and to avoid drivers being held on red on a preceding stop-line and seeing a green/amber signal and believing they were free to move forward.

Installing yellow box junctions to prevent junction blocking would be difficult because some of the boxes would be large and this was likely to create uncertainty, hesitation and affect capacity.

Mr Farmer said he knew that issues around lane and destination markings were key concerns and these would be amongst the main focuses of the independent review. The review would also include further investigation of the yellow box issue. The results of that will be reported back to the Board on 10th September 2013.

John Farmer will be present at the Meeting to update Members on the outcome of the review and answer questions.