National Transport Authority – Database

Please find enclosed a package of guidelines, templates and examples relating to a standardised traffic count data format designed for use with the traffic count database being developed by the National Transport Authority (the Authority). Sample specifications are also included. Please note some updates have been made to the specifications; notably the alterations to the ATC specifications and the additions of Vehicle Occupancy specifications and Bus Boarding and Alighting/Bus Occupancy specifications.

As part of the on-going data collation phase of the Regional Modelling Development Programme the Authority built a database to handle and process the significant quantities of data it receives from Local Authorities. This has created a common platform for the preparation and storage of data. The Authority has built on this to create a nationwide platform to manage the storage and access of traffic data which has been made available to all authorities, reducing duplication of traffic counting while making this data easily available and transferable between authorities. The end result is an interactive GIS-enabled database.

As part of the initial data collation exercise we reviewed the datasets received and created a standardised format for recording traffic count data so that it can be added to the database in an effective and efficient manner. The streamlining of this process will make the storage and subsequent distribution of traffic count data as seamless as possible.

Currently, the database will process and store traffic surveys of the following types:

 Automatic Traffic Count (ATC)

 Junction Turning Count (JTC)

 Junction Turning Count – Pedestrian Movements (JTC – Ped)

However, we would appreciate if you would consider having the results of any future traffic survey carried out on your behalf supplied in the new standardised format by the relevant traffic survey company, in addition to a format to serve your own requirements. The supply of your traffic counts in this new format will result in seamless and efficient integration into the new nationwide traffic count database and will help to underpin the new interactive database.

Survey companies operating in Ireland have been briefed on this new dataset format to familiarise themselves with the exact requirements and characteristics of both the database and ultimately the format required for inputting traffic count information.

The enclosed package contains the following:

 Comprehensive guidelines outlining features and requirements of the dataset format

 Blank Templates of the ATC, JTC and JTC – Ped, Vehicle Occupancy and Bus

 Boarding and Alighting/Bus Occupancy dataset formats

 Examples of datasets relating to typical survey sites encountered1

Should you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact counts@nationaltransport.ie.

1 It should be noted that the included examples are for INDICATE PURPOSES ONLY and should note be assumed to be representative of the associated locations contained therein.