

Road safety audits

A road safety audit is an evaluation of road / highway improvement schemes during the design process and at the end of the construction stage.

The issues

Road safety is an important element of all highway and traffic engineering design. The use of road safety audit throughout the design process has delivered benefits in reduced accidents since its widespread adoption in the UK in the early 1990s. The independent scrutiny of plans from the single perspective of road safety at key points in the process provides the opportunity to ensure that road safety is afforded a high priority amongst other design considerations.



Safety in design

The road safety audit has proved to be a successful tool used as part of road safety strategies and contributes towards achieving best value targets as well as casualty reduction targets.

MVA Consultancy has competent, qualified road safety audit professionals throughout the UK, calling on skills from our wider traffic

and transport engineering experts. This enables us to form bespoke road safety audit teams tailored to the requirements of each scheme.

We offer road safety audit services at all stages of the design process for all road, traffic engineering and Smarter Choice schemes throughout the UK and overseas.

MVA Consultancy skills

MVA Consultancy has built up an in depth understanding of road safety issues over a number of years, establishing its reputation within the UK and Ireland in this field. Consequently it is able to offer clients a high level of practical and strategic assistance in this vital area including:

Safety engineering:

- Safer routes to schools;
- PUDO Assessments (Assessment of School Bus Pick Up and Drop Off locations and presented as a risk assessment);
- Local safety schemes;
- Mass action plans;
- Urban and rural safety management;
- Traffic calming / 20 mph zones.

Safety research:

- Accident data and behaviour analysis;
- Before and after studies;
- Accident statistics database;
- Retrieval programmes;
- Innovative techniques;
- Monitoring systems;
- Statistical analysis.

Safety audit:

- Stage 1 - 4 audits;
- Development of audit procedures and risk analysis.

Experience

Our experience includes safety audits for; conversion of zebra crossings to pelicans, bus priority schemes, environmental traffic management schemes, proposed residential development, community hospitals, educational centres, proposed shopping centres, town centre gyratory systems, roundabouts, proposed new road layout as part of a regeneration project or masterplanning exercise, and Home Zone projects.

More recent safety audits include innovative traffic calming street scene projects, involving shared space by pedestrians and vehicles and radical changes to street furniture use with the removal of sign clutter but with the maintenance of safe and efficient road user information. These audits provide an insight into the difference between conventional and new approaches to the use of the public domain.

