

Calibrating Road Policing Equipment

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Policy statement and principles

What

All Police equipment used for road policing enforcement must be calibrated and/or certified to international standards so it operates accurately.

Why

Results from the use of such equipment can be used to issue infringement notices or as evidence in a court of law.

How

Police maintains a specialist group, the Police Calibration Services (PCS), which is primarily responsible for:

- maintaining the calibration and certification of speed enforcement equipment used by Police
- maintaining the calibration and certification of weighing enforcement equipment, primarily used by Commercial Vehicle Safety Team (CVST)
- maintaining the calibration and certification of Total Station Forensic Mapping equipment, used by Serious Crash Unit staff (SCU)
- maintaining a national database of all employees qualified to use speed detection equipment
- providing certified copies of calibration certificates for district employees as required for court defended matters
- nationwide coordination of all alcohol enforcement equipment
- management and supply of speedometer testing equipment and Crash Data Recorder kits to authorised employees.

Overview

Police Calibration Services

Police Calibration Services (PCS) is a specialist group within Road Policing Support, PNHQ. It is an International Standards Organisation (ISO) accredited metrology laboratory in Wellington, and is required to meet all ISO requirements in terms of calibration processes, documentation and auditing (ISO/IEC 17025). Maintaining these high standards provides assurance that the work performed by PCS meets the highest of current scientific standards in the world.

Annually the PCS manages over 5000 individual items at their Wellington Laboratory and in the districts.

The PCS is located at:

s.9(2) OIA

and can be contacted between 0800 - 1600 hours (Monday to Friday excluding public holidays) as follows:

Main Office

s.9(2) OIA

Technicians

s.9(2) OIA

Equipment tested and/or calibrated by PCS

- Stalker Radars
- Stalker Lidars (lasers)
- Redflex Red Light, mobile and static safe speed cameras
- Red light & static safe speed camera sites
- Weighbridges
- Portable scales
- Electronic Distance Measuring Equipment (used by SCU).

Additional duties

Additional duties performed by PCS includes:

- training district staff to test Police car speedometers
- maintaining vehicle speedometer test kits
- testing new enforcement equipment
- management of Dräger 7510NZ & 9510NZ Alcohol Breath Test devices
- providing specialist responses to speed and alcohol disclosure requests (especially ones that relate to calibration of test equipment, and accuracy of the devices)
- training district mobile speed camera operators
- maintaining database of Speed Detection Device Operators & Instructors
- management of CDR equipment
- liaison with manufactures of specialist equipment.

Note: Districts pay all costs of travel for their staff attending training programs provided by the PCS.

Equipment calibration schedule and other requirements

Speed detection equipment

This table details the PCS role and requirements in respect of speed detection equipment.

Equipment	Frequency	PCS must. . .
Radar speed devices	Annual	calibrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - within the District, within 24 hours of the unit being delivered (provided it arrived before 0900 hrs on the day allocated for its calibration) - within 3 working days of a device being returned from a service agent to the Wellington laboratory.
Mobile and static safe speed cameras	Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calibrate cameras within 2 days of their arrival at the Wellington or Masterton laboratories (weather permitting) - conduct static camera site inspections and produce certificates of compliance in accordance with section 146 of the Land Transport Act 1998.
Laser speed detection devices	Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calibrate within 7 days of their receipt at the Wellington or Masterton laboratories (provided it arrives before 0900 hrs on the day allocated for its calibration)

Alcohol detection equipment

This table details the PCS role and requirements in respect of alcohol detection equipment.

Equipment	Frequency	PCS must action. . .
All alcohol devices		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refer devices received from districts for calibration to Dräger - return alcohol devices to the district within 24 hours of calibration by Dräger - advise the relevant Road Policing Manager (RPM) within 5 working days of being so advised by Dräger, of alcohol devices being removed from service.

Other equipment

This table details the PCS role and requirements in respect of other equipment.

Equipment	Frequency	PCS must. . .
Electronic distance measuring devices (used by serious crash investigators)	Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calibrate within 3 days of receipt at the Wellington laboratory (weather permitting) and provided it arrives before 0900 hrs on the day allocated for its calibration.
Other non-specified devices	As required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calibrate within 7 days of receiving the unit at an appropriate laboratory.

District responsibilities in respect of equipment

Districts must:

- present all devices (complete with all parts as required) for calibration on time and on the allocated day as specified by PCS (**Note:** PCS holds any device presented for calibration that is not complete, until all parts are received)
- pay all costs for repairs to district-owned devices charged by the authorised Service Agent
- ensure that speed, distance measuring, CDR and alcohol devices are properly looked after and operated correctly
- pay to replace or repair any device that is leased and supplied to a district by PCS that is lost or sustains damage that is not considered normal operational wear or usage, or where the said item is proven to have been lost in transit by courier
- pay to replace or repair any device that is owned by Police and supplied to a district by PCS that is lost or sustains damage that is not considered normal operational wear or usage, or where the said item is proven to have been lost in transit by courier
- acknowledge the PCS policy to impound speed equipment provided by PNHQ to the district, that has not been used, or:
 - for lasers, has been used for less than 160 hours in any calibration cycle;
 - for radars, has been used for less than:
 - 800 hours by Highway Patrol in any calibration cycle;
 - 500 hours by Road Policing Units (except CVST) in any calibration cycle;
 - 250 hours by all other work groups in any calibration cycle.

Note: Where speed equipment is impounded under the policy due to insufficient use, the device may, on the first occasion, be returned to the District Road Policing Manager for relocation within the district. If any device is impounded twice from the same district it must be returned to PCS for relocation to any other district / work group.

Service costs

PCS covers calibration costs

The PCS provides calibration services to the districts and covers these costs:

- costs to freight devices / equipment back to districts after calibration
- costs to freight faulty devices / equipment (rejected by the PCS) to the authorised service agent
- service calibration costs for Dräger devices, but not any costs associated with physical damage or misuse of the device (see 'Exceptions' below)
- all lease costs for radar and laser equipment not owned by Police, and all normal maintenance costs associated with this equipment.

Exceptions

Districts must pay all costs associated with loss or damage to:

- speed detection equipment (including radars, lasers, safe speed cameras, lost tuning forks and all associated equipment, e.g. radar remotes, power cables etc.)
- alcohol equipment
- equipment contained in vehicle speedometer testing kits supplied by Police Calibration Services
- electronic distance measuring devices
- CDR kits

Where:

- that loss or damage is due to circumstances other than normal wear and tear, or
- the item is proven to have been lost in transit by courier.

Should a district fail to provide devices for calibration when they are requested by PCS, the district may be charged any additional costs incurred.

Reporting

CS provides districts with:

- reports on the location of all speed and alcohol devices provided to the district by PCS, as and when required
 - reports on equipment that is overdue for calibration
 - reports on any other performance assessment of equipment, as and when required
 - certificates of accuracy within two working days of receipt of any request.
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