COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH – input into Police and Crime Panel Task Group

Background

Speedwatch was included on the forward work plan when agreed by the Committee in October 2013. There was interest in this topic as the police, who have responsibility for Speedwatch, had indicated that they would address a number of concerns members had about the scheme, and members were keen to see that these had been resolved.

Subsequently, the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) set up a Task Group looking at Voluntary Schemes, which included Speedwatch. The Committee is keen to avoid duplication of effort and also wishes to work constructively with its partners therefore, as the Police have responsibility for this topic, it was agreed that it was more appropriate for the PCP Task Group to continue its work, but with the Committee being given the opportunity to provide any questions and raise any issues it would like the PCP to address in its review.

Potential issues for consideration by the PCP Task Group

- a) The following had been identified previously as issues that needed addressing in relation to Speedwatch:
 - Difficulties with IT functionality;
 - 'Follow-up' letters not being sent to offending motorists;
 - Insufficient training opportunities for those wishing to take part in the scheme;
 - Shortage of speed guns.

The Committee may wish to see that these issues have been resolved.

- b) The areas below are suggested as potential areas of guestioning:
 - What are the total resources of the scheme?
 - Where are individual schemes currently sited?
 - Does the scheme have an end date or is it indefinite?
 - How are decisions made, and by whom, about where individual schemes are located?
 - Are Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) included in the scheme?
 - What level of monitoring or support is required from the Area Boards and to what extent do the police liaise with Area Boards and provide feedback?

Input into the PCP Task Group

Members are asked to consider the suggestions above and also to raise any questions they may have that they would like the PCP Task Group to address in its review.