

BRIEFING PAPER
GUIDANCE FOR COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH
AND SPEED INDICATION DEVICES

Introduction

Many communities express concerns over vehicle speeds and the Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership Speed Management Strategy is used as a tool to manage speeding by identifying sites for enforcement or engineering improvements.

Community Speed Watch will be introduced to become part of the overall strategy in casualty reduction by engaging the community in addressing speed related offending.

Community Speed Watch – What is it?

Community Speed Watch (CSW) gives local people the ability to actively get involved in road safety. Local residents, who are willing to volunteer a small amount of time each week, are able to monitor speeds with speed detection equipment in their community.

CSW is not Speed Enforcement which can only be conducted by trained and qualified staff within Wiltshire Police.

Starting a Scheme

A potential speeding issue should be raised with the Area Board by completing a *community issue sheet*. This issue along with others will be prioritised and the Camera Safety Unit asked to assess them to see if they are suitable for CSW.

If CSW is a suitable approach an application can be submitted for a scheme to be set up. A CSW coordinator working in the Camera Safety Unit will liaise with the Local Beat Manager, Roads Policing Officers and the local community to organise training for the volunteers.

How does it Work?

Once the training has been completed, the CSW Volunteers carry out speed monitoring on specified roads in their community. All sites are risked assessed and checks can only be conducted at these sites. All volunteers agree to work within a 'Code of Practice' which ensures a consistent approach for all the schemes and the motoring public.

The CSW Volunteers record the registration numbers of vehicles exceeding the speed limit this information is passed to the CSW Coordinator and a letter is sent warning the Registered Keeper. If there are vehicles found to be persistently offending they will be targeted by the Police with a view to issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice or to instigate court proceedings.

Where the recorded results show a persistent speed issue the CSW Coordinator may recommend to the Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership that additional investigation is undertaken and temporary speed indicator devices or similar variable message signs should be deployed periodically at the site.

More Information

Please contact your Area Board Manager.

Operation of a CSW Scheme

