

# Information sheet: Community Speed Watch Rules



Community Speed Watch Rules

October 2013

All personnel operating as CSW team members are to be over 18 years of age, have attended a formal CSW Police training session and passed a police security check. Non-trained personnel are permitted to observe the team but must not take part in **any** activities (i.e. recording registration details or operating the speed device).

Even if you only take the written notes and don't use the device, you are still required to undertake the training and full vetting process.

During speed checks, CSW teams must consist of at least 2 and preferably not more than 4 trained members.

CSW teams are only to operate at sites that have been approved by police and a risk assessment for that site has been completed and issued by the police. All members of the CSW teams and/or helpers are not to cause an obstruction to vehicles or pedestrians and must not step into the road.

On occasion, policing or council operations may prevent CSW operation. Volunteers will be informed of any such operations as soon as practicable.

CSW schemes may be asked to take part in Police or Council operations – e.g. being active during road safety campaigns.

CSW checks are only to take place during **daylight** hours and between **0700hrs and 2000hrs** (dependent on time of year). Furthermore, they are only to take place when road and weather conditions are considered safe to do so. CSW checks shall not be undertaken in thick fog, icy conditions and during heavy rain.

The Community Speed Watch Support Team (and police) are to be informed of the date, time; duration and site at which a CSW check is planned to take place. The CSW Support Team should be given notice of times/dates/locations of speed checks at least one week in advance. This information is shared with the local NPT's. The CSW Team Leader is to inform the force contact centre of presence on site before the check and after the check to confirm that site activities are complete.

All CSW teams must take care of the equipment they have been loaned, and report any damages to the CSW co-ordinator. Speed detection devices must be tested for accuracy (as shown in training) prior to use. If the device fails these tests, it must not be used and should be reported to the CSW Co-ordinator. CSW equipment is only to be used for CSW activities.

Teams must not conceal their presence from motorists. CSW is a high profile speed reduction exercise aimed at educating drivers to consider their speed. Visible presence has a significant impact on driver behaviour.

Approved high visibility jackets are to be worn at all times during a CSW check along with your photo ID badge.

Volunteers must carry the letter of authority and speed watch leaflet from Wiltshire Police during speed checks. These can be shown/given to people who inquire as to your activities during the checks and are likely to be useful tools to avoid confrontation.

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CSW team members are not to enter into protracted and potentially confrontational debates with them. If intimidation and abuse becomes excessive then break off the CSW check and contact the Wiltshire Police Contact Centre on **101**.

**If the incident requires IMMEDIATE Police attendance, e.g. there is danger to life or risk of serious injury telephone 999.**

CSW teams if possible should carry a mobile phone in case there is a need to contact or be contacted by the police. The number for this phone should be given to the contact centre when calling to confirm the start of your speed check.

Essential data to be recorded on a speeding vehicle is time, index number, type/colour and speed.

## **After Speed Checks:**

To ensure timely processing of letters, correlation of data with reports from other teams and rapid police contact with repeat speeders, the CSW check information is to be sent to the Community Speed Watch Coordinator (Communityspeedwatch@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk) electronically within **24 hours the date of the check**.

The record is to include date, time, site post code at which the CSW took place, number of total vehicles passing, index number and description of speeding vehicles, names of CSW team members and the shoulder number of any Police officers/staff present