

# Speed Watch

Derbyshire Constabulary

Standing Together

### Foreword

I know that most drivers in Derbyshire take their responsibilities behind the wheel seriously. But for those who repeatedly risk the lives of others, they must be held accountable.

Since I was elected in 2021, I have held firm to my promise to increase the force's capacity to tackle illegal driving. My budget has provided more than one thousand additional hours of enforcement and preventative activity on our roads. I have invested in new vehicles and technology to increase the scope of proactive patrols.

Alongside extra training for roads policing officers, I have supported the roll out of targeted operations such as Operation Capture. This enables residents to upload dashcam footage of dangerous driving incidents to help officers bring more offenders to justice. Furthermore, I have funded the installation of no fewer than 49 Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) through my £150k Road Safety Grant scheme. These vehicle-activated signs, used by local communities to display vehicle speeds through an area, now cover the length and breadth of Derbyshire.

The expansion of Community Speedwatch (CSW) across Derbyshire is a key commitment in my Police and Crime Plan. I know how strongly our communities value proactive and visible speed monitoring and I am proud of the hundreds of CSW volunteers who support the work of frontline police officers in delivering this important safety work every day. Many new schemes have received support from my office to get off the ground. There are now 84 groups in operation and more than 600 volunteers. Many more will receive training this year. Collectively, they issued over 10,000 letters to motorists who exceeded the speed limit since 2021.

Since 2019, the number of people killed or seriously injured on Derbyshire's roads has fallen by 20 per cent. I am determined to reduce this even further with your ongoing support.

Every death or injury on our roads is a tragedy and impacts on the lives of the victims, their family and their friends in unimaginable ways. We must continue to evaluate the evidence and utilise every resource at our disposal to bring further improvements and prevent death on our roads.

Thank you for your interest in supporting this work. In joining this highly successful scheme, you will be playing a valuable role in our work to save lives and making our roads safer for all. Together, we will make a difference.



Angelique Foster

Angelique Foster

Police and Crime Commissioner

# Community Speed Watch (CSW)

Derbyshire Community Speed Watch is a scheme that enables groups of trained volunteers to directly contribute to reducing the problem of speeding vehicles on local roads. It is clear that speeding is a daily source of concern for a number of communities not only in terms of its potential to kill and seriously injure others but also the anti-social levels of noise and increased pollution it creates.

By working in partnership the police and local community can, in identifying and dealing with speeding motorists, make a real contribution towards reducing the incidence of speeding, thereby improving the quality of life for all.

### How does it work

A local community, having identified a speeding problem, contacts their Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) with a view to a CSW group being formed. Details of these teams can be found on the Derbyshire Police website.

The SNT then contacts the CSW team and verifies that the location and nature of offending is suitable for a scheme together with the fact that there are sufficient volunteers.

The group is then trained after which:

- Groups of trained volunteers carry out high visibility speed checks at approved locations
- Details of speeding vehicles are then forwarded to the CSW Team who verify the details and enter them onto a central database

- The registered owner is then sent an advisory/warning letter notifying them that they have been recorded speeding and that their details will be held pending any further incidents of them exceeding the speed limit.
- This can include a personal visit by a Police Officer to deliver the letter dependent upon the circumstances.

# **Funding**

While no funding is available from Derbyshire Constabulary for the purchase of kits, there are several sources where funding and kit can be obtained, details of these will be provided upon request.

As the Police and Crime Commissioner, Angelique Foster, stated in her foreword, she has recently launched a £150,000 Road Safety Grant for communities to tackle local speeding problems and to work together to develop joint solutions. Funding has also been received previously from the Commissioner, to support the work of Community Speedwatch and boost coverage of the scheme throughout Derbyshire.

Details of this grant can be found by visiting www.derbyshire-pcc. gov.uk/finance-grants/road-safety-grant-scheme/"

# Who can volunteer

Any person aged 18 or over can volunteer for CSW on the understanding that they will receive training, though as volunteers will be unable to claim any form of payment or expenses.

Each group of volunteers should appoint a Group Co-ordinator who will receive any updates about the CSW scheme including carrying out core functions before and after each session. Whilst

not onerous this position is crucial to the effective running of the scheme as they will be the first point of contact for the group and ensure that rules and regulations are complied with.

### **Benefits**

- Deters incidence of speeding at the location and immediate area at the time of sessions taking place.
- Enables advisory/warning letters to be sent to those recorded as speeding.
- Provides direct evidence of a speeding problem that can be utilised by Police enforcement and other agencies.
- Provides an opportunity for local communities to take a direct and positive stand against speeding.
- Due to it being volunteer lead the scheme provides the clearest sign that the community is no longer willing to tolerate speeding.
- Directly contributes towards speeding becoming socially unacceptable.

# Summary

The scheme is truly ground breaking with hundreds of volunteers already involved throughout Derbyshire. Should you or your community be suffering from speeding then don't suffer in silence or rely on the actions of others.

Instead contact your local SNT and begin the journey to enjoying the potential benefits of a CSW group in your area.





101 non-emergency, in an emergency always call 999

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www.derbyshire.police.uk