

## Community Speedwatch in Thames Valley

The new Community Speedwatch Scheme, under the direction of PC Lee Turnham, Roads Policing, was launched in October 2021, following a successful 6 month Pilot Scheme in Bucks and Oxfordshire. The new platform brought all LPA schemes in line, and all LPA's have been engaged and are fully on board. The new scheme removes much of the previous paper-based process, and allows groups to update data to the platform swiftly. The main difference is that the scheme is now fully out of the hands of Neighbourhood teams, freeing them up for other community issues.

There are now 223 groups across the TVP footprint, comprising approximately 1200+ residents/volunteers, and the system has been set up so that Councils can access information on all schemes in their LPA/jurisdiction areas. The scheme is GDPR compliant, and groups are restricted to seeing their own data and not that of another's group. All training is conducted on-line for new group members, saving time and expenditure.

The previous requirement for a paper Service Level Agreement has now been removed. It was agreed at the Strategic Board that when Speedwatch locations are "built" and authorised by PC Turnham, the platform recognises where these are and will add people to a dynamic SLA and record this.

In terms of the operation, a motorist can receive 3 graduated letters over a rolling 6 month period; any further transgressions will lead to a visit by a Roads Policing Officer to discuss driving behaviour. If a motorist is 50% over the specified limit, they will automatically receive an Excess 50% letter, explaining potential police action if the speeding occurrence had been carried out by a Police Officer. If the motorist is detected at twice the specified speed limit, it will be flagged for a Roads Policing visit as soon as possible.

Where a site/road is particularly busy, according to statistics with a high level of activity and transgressions, other measures will be considered by PC Turnham, such as Neighbourhood Tasking, and use of a mobile speed camera van if the area becomes a certified site. Roads Policing can be tasked with an enforcement package, to take a proactive approach in the area. A DVLA check is automatically completed of any vehicle detected speeding, after which a letter will follow. DVLA are automatically notified via the Speedwatch scheme, of vehicles travelling with no tax. Roads Policing will look at time periods and consider prosecution for no MOT; usually they will not do so within the first month of expiry. Outside of this, vehicle details from Speedwatch are confirmed with ANPR for Roads Policing patrols.

In the past 12 months, the new Scheme has had over 306,500 vehicles pass through it, with 33,329 letters sent.

Over 9020 hours of volunteering have been contributed by community members towards Road Safety, with 993 approved sites, and 3274 completed Speedwatch sessions, as at the end of December 2022. Clearly there is far more potential for scheme expansion, and more interested groups are seeking to join.

Regards

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