

Decelerate.

Community Speedwatch

Newsletter # 4

Welcome to the 4th newsletter from your TVP Community Speedwatch co-ordinator for;

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire. (TVP)



Hi everyone.

The first full year of TVP using the new platform has thrown up a few challenges. Many of them being procedure and protocol. A few of these will be addressed later in this newsletter.

The future of CSW now has a firm platform to build a cohesive and effectively applied strategy across all three counties, empowering communities to carry out CSW as and when the communities decide.



The new platform for CSW has been giving individual results back to those who are involved or have a vested interest. Your statistics are available from within the individual group platform.

Yes, we have seen a great take-up of the platform, with 225 groups now registered on the system. We still have a little way to go.

Thames valley Police, along with other Police forces have different procedures and protocols. The strategic governance board within Thames Valley meet on a quarterly basis, where issues are addressed. Thames Valley work alongside Hampshire and the Isle of White Constabulary in an operations capacity. However, the two police forces do not run off the same platforms for CSW.

GOOD NEWS

The 11 Local Police areas of Thames Valley Police are now securely on the new platform, all have been live for a minimum of 12 months.

The PCC, Matt Barber has secured funding, enabling loan kits for new groups. These will now be available on a permanent loan basis. The individual group must show use of the equipment, otherwise they will be reclaimed and distributed to another group. Once loaned you cannot request to loan a second device. For those groups waiting, these devices will be available as soon as they arrive from the suppliers.

Issues arising in last 12 mths

Q Why is the System showing 'No letters' sent?

The system will only show the words 'reported to TVP', this is due to TVP not using the lettering system of CSW online. All those vehicles that you record come into TVP letter system and their administration is carried out by us.

Q Where are the TVP roadside documents?

When you open the system and are on your home page, look to the far right and click 'HELP'. Now look to the left and choose 'DOCUMENTS', upon opening now choose 'FORMS'. The documents are the second up from the bottom of the page. These documents are to be with you each time you are at the roadside, no matter which device you are operating.

Q Is there a list of Thames Valley Speedwatch protocols?

TVP has just had its first full year of the platform and has been a learning curve for us all, the platform is subscribed to by TVP. However, TVP has its own protocols as does many other police force across the country.

The protocols have been posted onto the TVP platform of CSW online. Their exact Location within is; 'Help'-'Documents'-'Policies'-Briefings and Protocols'.

Q What does TVP insurance cover?

Providing each scheme has signed up on the system and have undergone the relevant online training, only then will the TVP insurance will be in place. This has a liability of £50M, far higher than that of a small parish being able to obtain. On the new scheme the platform will enable each location to be certified and thus creating a service level agreement to the group. **The insurance is only in place once CSW activities are in progress and providing that the group has pre- booked using the websites calendar system.**

It does Not cover the equipment whilst it is stored.

Q Is the signage of Community Speedwatch mandatory or advisory?

The signage, under all CSW rules state that this MUST be in place during the CSW period of monitoring. As per the newsletters #2 and 3. The siting of such devices falls to either the local parish or the county highways division.

Q Why is monitoring vehicles not allowed within 100M (both directions) of a speed change?

This situation has been looked at and I am pleased to say that this now only applies to the carriageway as vehicles enter a speed limit change.

Q Why do TVP not use the recorder facility within the website?

The reason this function has not been authorised by TVP is that some members of the community have been put in as a recorder, due to mobility and welfare issues, however it became apparent that the individuals were being used solely as 'office staff'. With the function being that of a co-ordinator it now includes the individuals in a more inclusive way, ie, they can see what is going on within the group and take on more responsibilities when and if they are able.

Q How does GDPR relate to retention of record?

GDPR legislation states that records of any activity should only be kept for the shortest amount of time and to aid another request from the same incident. Therefore, TVP have stated that 2 months is a maximum time for those who receive letters and require answers to make representation. Details of all data and this includes digital (sentinel) are to be destroyed at 2 months old.

Q Do we have to use tally counters to record all vehicles?

Recording the amount of vehicles going through the CSW location at the time enables the percentage of excess speed to be analysed. Should you only record excess speed you would show that 100% of all vehicles are offending when the true offenders may only be 1 or 2%. Should this be the case it would therefore be inappropriate to have officers and parishioners thinking that the issue is worse than it really is, or visa-versa.

Q Why can't we hide behind bushes in order to catch speeding motorists?

CSW is an education tool, the aim is to reduce speed through education. The aim is NOT to catch speeding motorist but reduce the speed. With operators being visible at all times this shows the vehicles driver that the CSW is in place and as such reduces the speed. Operators are not to hide behind bushes, but be visible on the roadside as per the site authorisations that state where the operatives are to stand whilst recording.

Q Why do TVP not allow ANPR devices?

TVP does not sanction the use of ANPR within CSW. This is two fold, the equipment is expensive and that ANPR retrieval is also expensive. TVP wish to keep the costs down to participating groups and parishes. For every retrieval that is gained by local authorities from the DVLA there is a charge of around £3.00 sterling. Accuracy is not an issue but there are many misreads on this equipment due to number plates not being clean or misrepresented in some form. Some groups do use the Sentinel and ASWC devices, which are image capture.

Q What is the letter procedure?

In terms of the operation, a motorist can receive three graduated letters over a rolling six 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.

Q When are the conferences going to take place?

Following the return of the survey that was distributed last year, a large percentage preferred that, should a conference take place it would be preference of daytime and either late Autumn or early Spring. We have been looking at venues that would be willing to accommodate us, along with trying to keep central within each county. I will keep you informed of any progress as soon as I receive it.

EQUIPMENT

Use of hand held devices; TVP will now support the use of such devices due to the cost implications that static devices were costing, therefore impeding smaller communities from being able to use the scheme.

Only **NON HOME OFFICE APPROVED** devices can be used. The likes of Laser LTI 20/20 and SPEEDAR devices are **NOT** to be used within the scheme. An example of such an approved device, and there are others, would be a Bushnell 101911 radar gun, which is currently selling online around £160-£200 online. The likes of Sentinel from Unipar and ASWC from Westcotec are sanctioned for use with the Thames valley Police area. There is however one caveat, the use of a device called **pocket radar** will not be sanctioned. This is due to the increased ability of operators to misuse the equipment.

Signs

I have been informed that the prices have increased recently, however being kept to a minimum. These signs available from from, Sign Wizzard, Aylesbury. There are **Other** sign makers in the Thames Valley.

AUTHORISATION MUST BE SOUGHT FROM YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY OR PARISH PRIOR TO PURCHASING, REGARDING FIXING TO EXISTING ROADSIDE FURNITURE.

A FEW TVP SPEEDWATCH RESULTS

PEOPLE WHO HAVE JOINED NEW TVP CSW SCHEME.	= 1,321
SITES APPROVED ACROSS TVP	= 1,031
ROADSIDE SESSIONS IN HOURS	= 3,442
OPERATOR HOURS ACROSS TVP	= 9,600
LETTERS SENT	= 34,822
VEHICLES PASSING THROUGH CSW SYSTEM	= 322,941
VEHICLES REPORTED TO DVLA FOR NO TAX	= 833
Percentage of NON re-offenders after receiving 1 st letter	= 96.04%

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TIME AND EFFORT.



The Vision.

All community speed watch activities across Thames Valley Police are aligned in the implementation and administration of the scheme.

All community speed watch activities are carried out in accordance with Policy, procedure and the best intentions of the community volunteers.

Members of the community are happy with the education process and potential targeting of persistent offenders.



Kind Regards

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IT'S NOT WORTH THE RISK



20 is plenty!



Its 30 for a reason!



Don't be naughty in a 40!