

Lot's of vehicles speed past my house. Is there anything I can do about it?

SPEED

YES

Community SpeedWatch gives local people the ability to actively get involved in road safety.

A Community SpeedWatch can be set up in any village, small town, or urban area, governed by either a 20, 30 or 40 miles per hour speed limit.

Community SpeedWatch is a partnership between the community, the police and local authorities.

WHAT HAPPENS

Vehicles observed speeding, will be sent a warning letter along with advice to help change their driving behaviour. Further action will be taken by the police against persistent and high end speed offenders as well as targeting individual locations.



VOLUNTEERS

A SpeedWatch consists of local residents, who are willing to volunteer a small amount of time each week to monitor speeds with speed detecting equipment.

Find out more by visiting

www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

and search for 'Community SpeedWatch'.



MOTORCYCLES

Motorcycles are not immune. In addition to the video camera mounted next to the speed detection equipment, there is also another mounted on the windscreen which records the rear of vehicles that have passed.

EQUIPMENT

We use the Home Office type approved:

- LTI Ultralyte 1000 laser speedmeter
- Tripod mounted in tandem with a video camera
- Everything recorded to a compact flash card

OPERATIONAL RANGE

The Ultralyte 1000 has an operational range of 1000m/1km and measures the speed of traffic travelling in both directions.

DEPLOYMENT

Speed enforcement routinely takes place because local people have raised concerns about speeds. These are known as Community Concern Sites.



Avon and Somerset Police

**SPEED
ENFORCEMENT**

Your questions answered

Avon and Somerset Police
SERVE.PROTECT.RESPECT.

www.avonandsomerset.police.uk | Follow us on   

J15259_04/2020

Do you have to be a regular police officer to carry out speed enforcement?

NO

Section 89(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 stipulates only a witness is required to gather evidence of speeding.

All Avon and Somerset Police enforcement officers are police staff and eligible to drive liveried police fleet vehicles.



Are there any rules you must follow when carrying out enforcement?

YES

When conducting speed enforcement, the operational document that UK Constabularies observe is the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) 'Guide for the Operational Use of Speed and Red-light Offence Detection Technology'.

The current NPCC guide is freely available to download via the National Police Library website.

Do you operate as part of a partnership with Local Authorities?

NO

The Avon and Somerset Police Speed Enforcement Unit is entirely a police led operation, with no partnership affiliations.



Does the enforcement have to be completely visible?

NO

There is no legal requirement for enforcement officers or their vehicles to be visible. NPCC operational guidelines refers to visibility in order to ensure the safety of the operators. Marked vehicles allow other motorists to see them easier and reduce the risk of collision and injury to personnel engaged in enforcement. There is no requirement for warning signs to be placed when enforcement officers are operating, the speed limit signs or the system of street lighting acts as the warning for motorists.

Do you have to put out warning signs to tell people that speed checks are taking place?

NO

There's no requirement for warning signs of any description to be deployed whilst carrying out enforcement.

Do you enforce 20mph zones?

YES

Just like any other speed limit, we enforce 20mph zones. These areas are often near schools or residential areas and people exceeding the speed limit puts vulnerable people, such as children, at risk of serious injury.



What can I do to help stay at a lower speed?

Keeping your vehicle in a low gear can help with maintaining a lower speed. Frequently check your speedometer and ensure you don't exceed the speed limit.

I've just driven along the road you're enforcing, but there are no signs to indicate what the speed limit is?

If the road in question has a 30mph speed limit with a system of street lighting, traffic signage regulations prohibit the use of any additional repeater signage.

So having passed the initial entry gateway signs that indicate where the 30mph limit commenced, then it's the presence of street lights and absence of any further speed limit signs that indicate that the limit is 30mph.

The reverse is true if there are no street lights in a 30mph limit, here there must be repeater signs.