

AGENDA ITEM 11

On Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 1:51 pm, Kevin Hall <Kevin.Hall@durham.police.uk> wrote:

Dear Cllrs',

Over the last few years, I have been activity seeking volunteers from within our communities to conduct Community Speed Watch (CSW) in the 22 villages we cover.

Volunteers can conduct CSW alongside PCSO's or as a group independent from police staff.

We have two vetting levels for Volunteers –

Level 0 – Those performing roadside deployments only.

Level 2 – Those conducting roadside deployment and office base clerical using police systems. A vetting application is required to be completed, which can take between 16-20 weeks for clearance. We request a commitment to the role due to the cost to the organisation.

Full training is provided and travelling expenses can be reimbursed for volunteers.

What is “Neighbourhood Community Speed Watch” (NCSW) about?

In the current climate of our reduced resources and the pressure on the Police Service to deliver more for less, to address community concerns and instil confidence, it is evident that, despite our collective best efforts, we cannot always deliver the level of activity to address the issue of SPEED some of our local communities would like us to deliver.

Where persistent complaints of speed are made, NCSW is about giving a degree of ownership to individual Neighbourhood Groups/Volunteers to tackle the issue of speed and the perceptions around actual speed themselves within communities.

By giving an individual NCSW Group the relevant tools to undertake Community Speed Watch (CSW) themselves they can, in a managed way, deliver CSW activities at the times and dates of their choosing for which they do not have to rely on a Police presence, wait until CSW equipment is available or wait for a convenient time to pick up and drop off equipment to a Police Station.

The delivering of more CSW locally by NCSW Groups made up of Vetted Volunteers will hopefully go some way to educating motorists of the need to reduce their speed in built up areas where the community feels vulnerable, educate local people around their perception of speed and thus reduce the demand on local police resources to tackle the problem.

NCSW remains an educational tool only but the escalation processes where Police interventions may be considered to support CSW remain as per the existing Force Protocols.

Should you know of anyone, or group interested in this role then please provide me with their contact details and feel free to share this information with potential volunteer/s.

Thank you

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