

## **Community Speed watch (CSW)**

Community Speed watch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities can, with the support of the Police, monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices.

Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds. In cases where education is blatantly ignored and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated (even across county borders), enforcement and prosecution follow.

CSW Online is working on behalf of the Police and communities to organise and coordinate CSW activity. Speeding is not just a local phenomenon - neither is speed watch.

Speeding continues to be a concern for many communities in both rural and urban environments. Therefore, Community Speed Watch is not restricted to villages and rural towns. Neighbourhood Policing Panels have an important role to play in developing safer urban communities and the adoption of speed watch schemes could assist them to more easily achieve their goals.

Volunteers receive appropriate training, and are supported by neighbourhood policing team (NPT) staff. The scheme aims to tackle the problem of real or perceived speed related offending. In partnership with the local community it can be used in order to:

- Reduce death and injury on the roads
- Improve the quality of life for local communities
- Reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit
- Increase public awareness of inappropriate speed

Speed watch is not about interfering with people's behaviour; it is simply a proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in the community.