

Community Speed Watch NEWSLETTER

1st July – 30th September 2011

I apologise for the delay in getting this Newsletter delivered. As you may be aware I am no longer the Coordinator for Community Speed Watch and have therefore been training Steve Bird to take on the role and also training in my new role, which has kept us both very busy.

Steve can be contacted on the normal number, 01785 232702, or by email using community.speedwatch@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk.

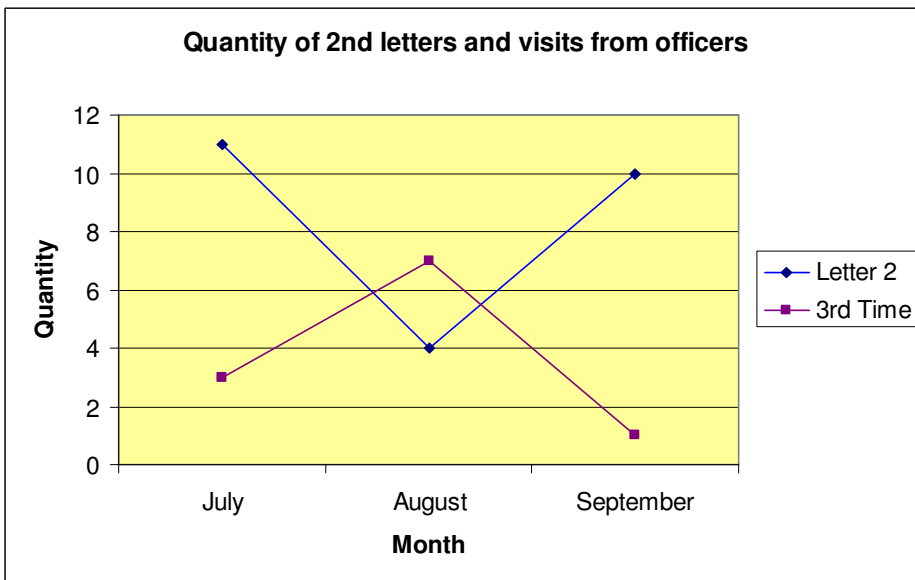
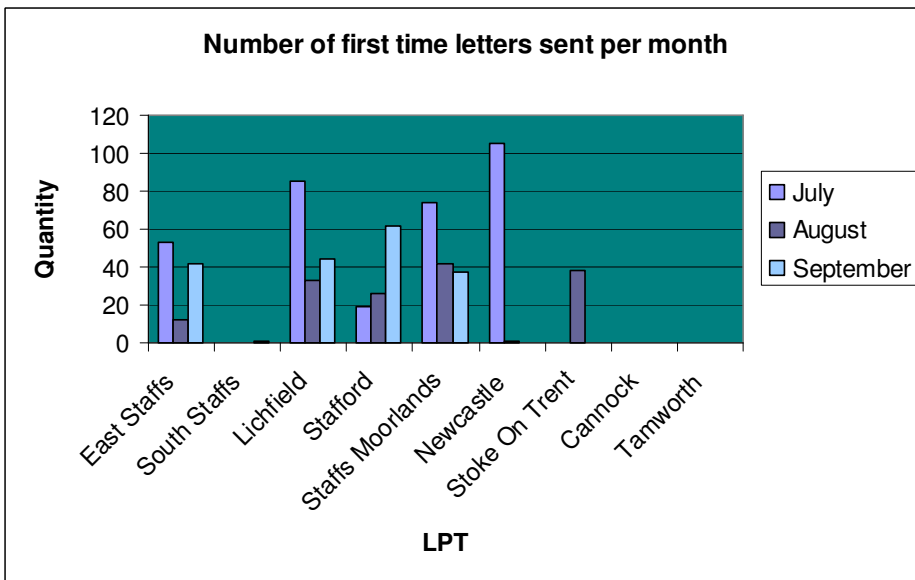
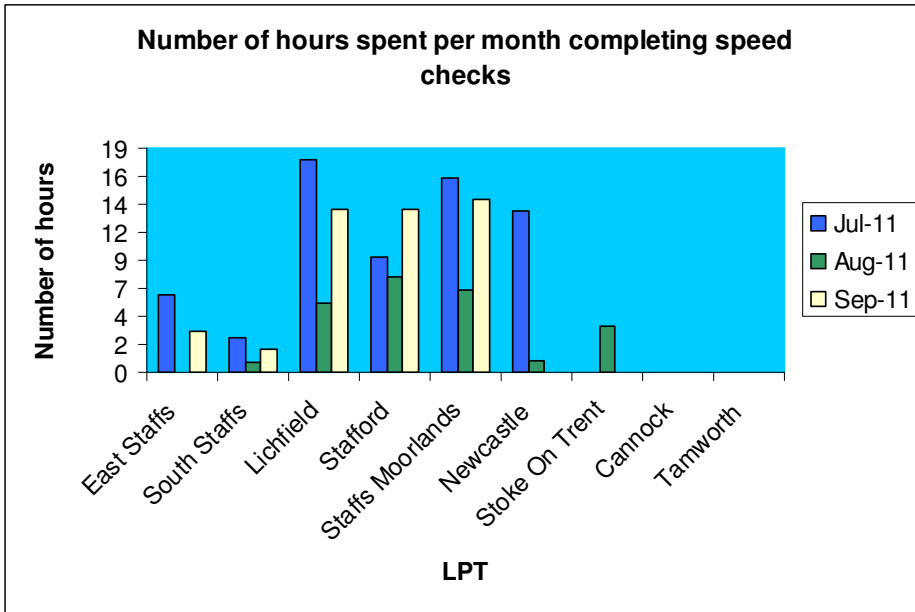
It seems that our summer was not as good as expected and unfortunately due to holidays and unpredictable weather it appears that schemes were not able to perform as many speed checks as they may have liked. July was a very busy month for CSW, but August saw a drop off in activity.

I think that the winter weather has now set in and understand that it is going to be harder to plan any speed checks as there appear to be grey clouds permanently in the sky. All of your efforts are appreciated.

Should you have any news, advice, information or stories that you would like to share with the other schemes in the county please let Steve Bird know and consideration will be given to include them in the next Newsletter.

Regards

Lucy Stone



REPORTING BEFORE SPEED CHECKS

Since the last Newsletter there have been queries regarding contacting the Police before commencing speed checks.

I have made numerous enquiries with all of the relevant departments and can advise you that an agreement has been reached that it is not essential for schemes to be reporting to the Police prior to speed checks being carried out. However, we still recommend notifying the Police as the information could assist should an incident occur.

If your scheme currently emails a rota to your local Sergeant then you can continue to do so, however this is also not a requirement.

It has been confirmed that the most essential element when carrying out the speed checks is that volunteers must stand at the risk assessed location and cannot stray from the exact location that has been signed off. Should there be any issues at any of the locations then please do not hesitate to contact Steve Bird and he will try to resolve these issues.

MANAGEMENT OF POLICE INFORMATION

We are aware that when volunteers have been reporting to the Police prior to speed checks they may have been asked for their date of birth and ethnic origin. We have made enquiries and have been informed that these questions are asked as part of the management of Police information. Should you be asked these questions it is your choice whether to answer them or decline to answer. It is a requirement for the operative to ask them but not a requirement for them to be answered.

NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER

Since 8th November a new telephone number has been implemented for non-emergencies. Instead of there being a separate number for every county (previously 0300 1234455 for Staffordshire) there is now a single number that identifies in which county you are located and transfers you to the appropriate Police Force.

The telephone number is 101 and costs 15p for the duration of the call for both landlines and mobile phones.

The previous phone number will continue to work for a short while until everyone is familiar with the new 101 number and 999 should still be used for emergency calls.