

## **Silverdale speed camera removed**

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Staffordshire is delivering on its promise to take out speed cameras that are no longer needed.

The first camera to be decommissioned, on Silverdale High Street, Silverdale, is now out of action for good.

The Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership which brings together the police, fire service and local councils, was reorganised last year to ensure speed cameras were just one part of the overall programme of actions to reduce death and serious injury.

Education, campaigning and engineering measures all come first.

Now the team is reviewing fixed and mobile camera sites to make sure they are still doing the job they were set up for - saving lives.

Each speed camera route has been reviewed to ensure that it is the best solution to reduce casualties at each location.

If circumstances have changed and other road safety campaigns and measures have worked, then the team will switch off the cameras. The camera on Silverdale High Street was commissioned in December 1997 to enforce a 30mph limit. Since then, speed humps have been introduced which have reduced speeds to below the 30mph speed limit.

The camera has been bagged as 'not in use' as the first stage in the decommissioning process before being removed from the highway. Vehicle speeds and casualty data at the location will continue to be monitored by the Partnership.

Staffordshire County Council highways cabinet member Mike Maryon said the review was ongoing.

"Speed cameras are just one aspect of the drive to reduce death and serious injury on our roads. They are only used where there is a proven need. If there is no longer any need we will take them out.

"We are doing more and more across the board to tackle speed including using more flashing speed signs, promoting community speed watch, traffic calming schemes, education and training initiatives and awareness campaigns.

"However, speed cameras in Staffordshire have been located very carefully to save lives. On average they deliver a 63% reduction in death and serious injury. So removing them is just not an option for local communities," he said.

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