

# **Community Speed Watch NEWSLETTER**

## **1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011**

Hope you all had a Happy Easter.

It's that time again. It's nice to see that the weather has been improving and that schemes have been becoming more active after the cold end to 2010 and start to 2011. Hopefully even more schemes will be contemplating performing some speed checks now the lighter nights are here.

All is going well for Community Speed Watch. There have been many enquiries about setting up new schemes and there are a few dormant or inactive schemes that wish to become active once again. There are more volunteers being trained by the month.

Over the past 3 months I have seen a dramatic increase in the quality of information provided on the log sheets and must thank you for your efforts as it means that I am able to send more letters.

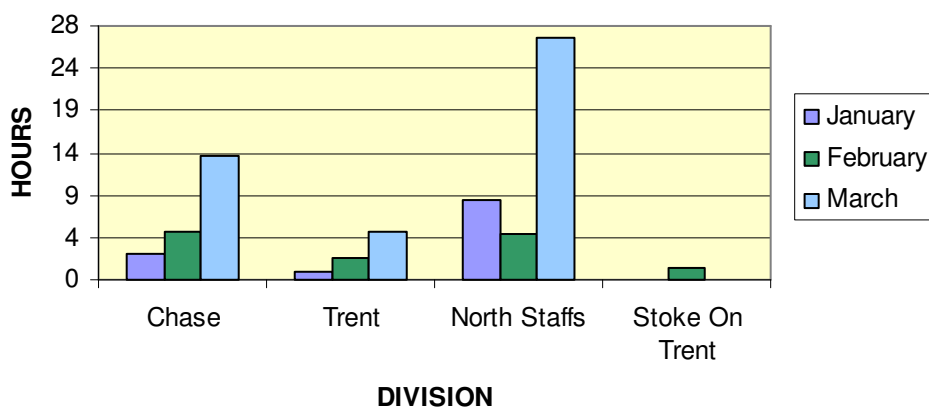
Should you have any news, advice, information or stories that you would like to share with the other schemes in the county please let me know and consideration will be given to include them in the next Newsletter.

Regards

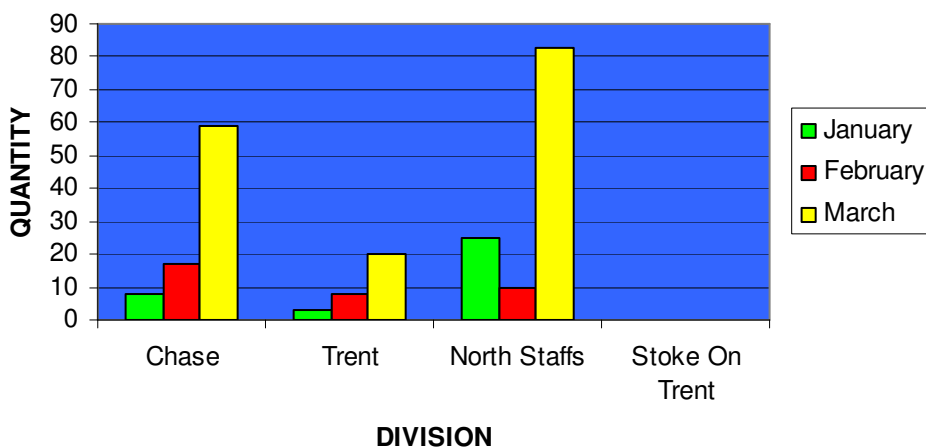
Lucy Stone  
Community Speed Watch Coordinator

Email: [lucy.stone@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lucy.stone@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)

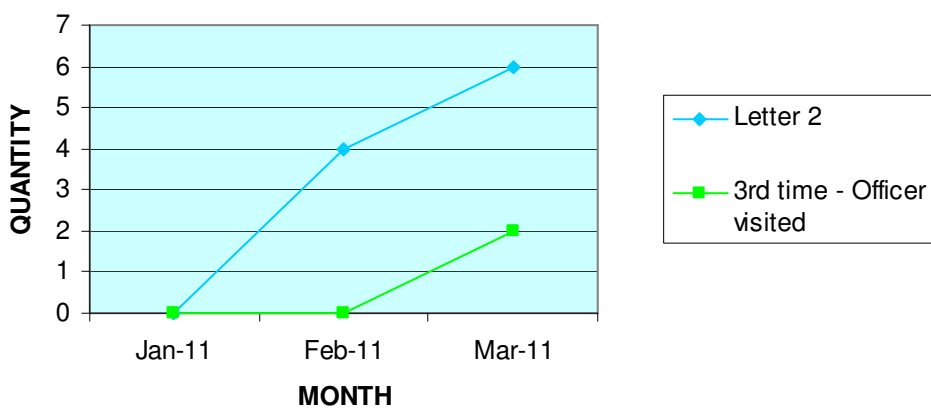
### AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT PER MONTH COMPLETING SPEED CHECKS



### QUANTITY OF LETTERS SENT PER MONTH



### QUANTITY OF 2ND LETTERS AND VISITS BY OFFICERS



## LETTERS NOT SENT

Queries have been received regarding letters that have not been sent due to one reason or another. As I have previously stated I am unable to provide data specific to any particular scheme, however I would like to explain that there are no schemes that are any worse than others. Out of 64 log sheets processed in the last 3 months 45 of these had errors. The majority only had 1 error. This high number may seem alarming to some of you, but I must stress that since the publication of this Newsletter I have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of errors. The total number of errors this quarter in comparison to the previous 2 quarters is 13% down.

Should there be any issues with a particular scheme then I will contact the local officer to ask them to participate in a speed check with that scheme to identify where improvements could be made. I hope that this puts some of your minds at ease.

A common error that I have noticed is certain colours of car. The colour of the vehicle is important as I need to determine that I am sending the letters to the keeper of the correct vehicle.

For example the log sheet may state that the vehicle identified is a black Ford. When I check the Police National Computer the details for the registration number provided may show as a grey Ford. If this is the case then I am unable to send a letter as there may be a vehicle with a similar registration number that is a grey Ford, and therefore this is not the vehicle that was identified.

I have received log sheets stating that the car is dark blue or grey, when in actual fact it is black. There are a lot of variations of colour and currently there are some very dark grey cars available, which can easily be mistaken for black, and vice versa the black cars sometimes shine as though they are a dark blue or a dark green. Unfortunately this is not something I can help to give advice on as these colours are easily mistaken. The only suggestion that I have is to look on dealership websites and try to identify the colours in their ranges. This may help you to familiarise yourself with the shades of grey and black for the different makes.

All in all the log sheets are coming back in a timely manner and with less errors than ever and for this I thank you, as it means that more letters can be sent and therefore more drivers are aware of the speed at which they are travelling through your village/area.

### TRAINING

I know that schemes gain volunteers all the time, or old schemes wish to restart. In order for the volunteers to become active members of their chosen CSW scheme they will require training. To make this process more streamlined coordinators can call or email me to advise me how many volunteers they have who require training. I will then issue Volunteer sign up sheets which are to be completed by each untrained volunteer. When the completed forms are received by me the training department will be notified and will contact the coordinator to arrange an appropriate date.

The PC/PCSO will need to be made aware that there are volunteers who will be receiving training as they also need to know what is happening with each scheme. In some instances they may want to be the point of contact to organise the training date with the untrained volunteers. If this is the case then when returning completed forms please advise me who wishes to be contacted to organise the training date and provide a contact phone number for them.

### EQUIPMENT

I have been making enquiries regarding replacement items for the hand held device (Genesis). I have obtained prices which are as follows:

- A plastic hand held carry case - £35
- A spare battery with no casing - £47
- A battery plus the leather casing - £106

All other items that are used are as follows:

- Genesis hand held device - £801
- 2 fold out signs - £107
- Waistcoats - S to XXL - £5.15 each
  - XXXL - £5.61 each
  - XXXXL - £7.48 each

**Should anyone require any of these items please let me know. These prices all exclude VAT which is not incurred if purchased through your local Council.**

## CSW QUIZ

Just for fun. Please try and answer the questions below, all relating to Community Speed Watch. The answers have been previously supplied in the previous 2 Newsletters. If you would like to check your answers please see our website [www.staffssaferroads.co.uk](http://www.staffssaferroads.co.uk)

1. Approximately how many site codes are there throughout the county?
2. What is the maximum number of fixed signs a scheme can purchase?
3. What is the name of the computer system used to check the vehicle details?
4. Which 2 letters did I use as an example that may be heard incorrectly?
5. What are the reasons for the highest volume of letters not being sent? (what do they relate to?)
6. How many volunteers were there as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010?
7. What 2 categories are there for the reasons why letters aren't sent?
8. In the past 6 months which division has spent the most time performing speed checks?
9. How soon after a speed check has been carried out must a log sheet be posted?
10. Where should the fold out signs NOT be placed?
11. What is the current standard format for a VRM? (excluding personalised plates)
12. What words are on the fixed CSW signs?