



A partnership between



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

This document is designed to answer the most frequently asked questions about the Community Roadwatch Scheme. If you have any questions that have not been answered in this document, please email them to communityroadwatch@met.police.uk

1. What are the main aims of the scheme?

Community Roadwatch is a nationwide scheme delivered in London via a partnership between TfL, the Metropolitan Police Service and the City of London Police. The main aim is to improve road safety by reducing speed on residential roads and local areas where many of the drivers themselves live.

2. Will the speeder receive points on their licence and / or a fine?

No, the scheme is about education, engagement and public confidence. Enforcement may be carried out by police officers where a location or individuals warrant it. (targeting certain individuals or locations). but this will be separate to CRW.

3. What do the warning letters say?

The first warning letter advises the registered keeper of the location, time and date the vehicle was recorded speeding and the speed they were travelling at. There is also information advising the registered keeper what the consequences would have been had they been caught by an enforcement camera or Police Officer. The letter also includes some statistics on speed-related collisions resulting in people killed and seriously injured. If caught again within a 12 month period, a second warning letter will be sent similar to the first, but this will also warn the registered keeper that if the vehicle is seen exceeding the speed limit a third time during a CRW deployment the vehicle details will be added to the Automatic Number Plate Recognition system (ANPR). This will flag the vehicle to police officers when the vehicle is detected and the driver may then be dealt with appropriately for any offences apparent at that time and you may be targeted for enforcement.

4. What happens to third time plus offenders?

The VRMs of speeders caught more than twice in a year period will be added to ANPR and may be stopped by officers, given words of advice and may look over their vehicle. In addition, police officers may choose to target these speeders with enforcement or use targeted enforcement at locations of high speed. This will be done outside of the Community Roadwatch Scheme and will not involve volunteers



A partnership between



5. What speed do I have to be travelling at to get a warning letter?

Speed limits are set for a reason and are recognised all over the world. Any vehicle travelling above the speed limit on a road is speeding! Reality is road users naturally and very often creep over the set limit. ACPO has set an agreed prosecution guideline being 10% over the speed limit +2mph. Therefore examples of enforcing the offence of speeding would be vehicles travelling in excess of 24mph in a 20mph zone, 35mph in a 30mph zone etc. This is not to say that a vehicle travelling over the normal speed limit cannot be stopped for the offence of speeding.

The speed limit +10% +2mph (24mph in a 20mph, 35mph in a 30mph and 46mph in a 40mph). Anyone travelling at these speeds and above will receive a letter.

6. I have received a letter but was not driving at that location/time/day. How do I appeal?

Due to the nature of the scheme errors can naturally be made when recording vehicle details and we do take this into consideration. This is why several checks are carried out prior to sending out a warning letter. If you believe you have genuinely received a letter in error Please write to communityroadwatch@met.police.uk with your reference number, VRM and personal details with of your complaint. These will be considered and our records will be amended accordingly. However, your details will not be deleted from our records until 12 months has passed in order to identify any fraudulent activity such as the use of cloned number plates which is very rare but a possibility.

7. How long will the police hold my details on their records?

12 months from the date of alleged offence.

8. Can a warning letter affect my insurance?

No, details recorded by the CRW team are not shared with insurance companies. However, if you continue to speed and are detected 3 times or more, you may be targeted by police officers. If they enforce against you speeding outside of the CRW scheme your insurance will be affected.

9. How do I sign up to volunteer?

You can sign up by emailing communityroadwatch@met.police.uk stating you would like to volunteer with your name, the borough you live in, and contact details. This will be passed to your borough Safer Transport Team (STT), who will be in touch.

10. How do I suggest a location where speeding is a concern?

Please contact the email address above with the road name, nearest junction and borough, this will be passed to your local STT for consideration



A partnership between



11. Can I volunteer in my own road?

To avoid any neighbour confrontation, we have made the decision to not allow volunteers to participate in a scheme in the road they live on. However, we will happily consider your road for the scheme using other volunteers.

12. If I volunteer how often do I need to participate?

CRW is a volunteer led scheme so without willing volunteers we are unable to run the roadside operations. Ideally 1-2 hours per session, as little or as often as you like.

13. How are the locations chosen?

Site locations are a combination of speed-related injury collision hotspots and locations of community concern. A location does not need to have any collision history to be considered.

14. How long do sessions last?

Sessions last for as long as the volunteers and STT officers are available, though typically between 1 and 2 hours.

15. How many volunteers at each session?

A minimum of 1 volunteer is needed to carry out the session along with at least 1 Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). The number of volunteers will depend on session uptake and also the immediate area including the width of the pavement. This will be risk-assessed by police and at the discretion of your STT.

16. Are volunteers expected to interact with drivers?

No. The scheme is about educating and changing driver behaviour using a high visibility presence and sending warning letters. Letters are sent by a central office within the police and NOT by members of the public. Volunteers do not get any access to registered keepers details. If a driver stops to speak with volunteers they will be directed to the PCSO on scene.

17. How old do you have to be to volunteer?

Risk Assessments currently only cover adults aged 18 and over, although we are looking to change this soon to include under 18s with the view to promote road safety from an early age. This will be a good step for young people looking to start driving.

18. Are there Police Staff present at CRW sessions?

Yes, always at least one PCSO who has a radio connected to the police control room will be at every CRW operation.



A partnership between



19. How are volunteers kept safe?

Volunteers are given a roadside briefing at the start of every session, including instructions relating to roadside safety and interaction with the community (eg, not to step into the road, refer queries to police staff etc). Volunteers are asked to read and sign a disclaimer at the beginning of each session, stating they have read and understand instructions such as 'I will not step into the road', 'I can leave the session at any time', 'I will refer any members of the public to the PCSO on scene') Volunteers are not to attempt to stop any vehicle or engage with the driver. For health and safety each volunteer is given a high visibility jacket which must be worn at all times whilst at the roadside.

20. How can I find out more?

More information is available online www.tfl.gov.uk/CommunityRoadwatch

How to get involved:

If you would like to take part in Community Roadwatch or suggest a residential area where there are concerns around speeding, contact

YRMailbox-.CommunityRoadwatchHaringey@met.police.uk (Haringey)

YEMailbox-.CommunityRoadwatch@met.police.uk (Enfield)

CommunityRoadwatch@tfl.gov.uk