ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL



Speed Indicator Device Policy – 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Speed Indicator Device (SID) is one of a range of options which can be used at specific locations to tackle speeding to make communities safer for everyone by giving drivers more time to react and stop when they need to. They are temporary signs which use radar to detect and display vehicle speed to the driver to encourage them to keep within the speed limit.

The signs, activated by an approaching vehicle, display the vehicle's speed and a reminder message to either slow down or a thank you/smiley face graphic for keeping within the limit.

The devices aim to improve road safety by reducing vehicle speeds and raising awareness of local speed limits.

Devices can be installed at sites where there are local concerns about speed.

Mobile speed warning signs can be used at sites where speed is a concern even though there may not be a history of crashes. However, research has shown that their effectiveness reduces over time, with little or no speed reduction after about two weeks at any one location. Similarly, overuse at a site can dramatically reduce the effect and so it is recommended that sites are used no more than three times a year.

Andover Town Council currently have approved for use:

- 2 x Westcotec Speed Indicator Devices (serial numbers: 12403, 12404)
- 1 x Autospeedwatch device (this has not yet been purchased)

Currently permission has not been received from the Police to install the second model, however the Council has committed to install these models as soon as permissions are available.

There are 5 approved locations that are used.

Each SiD is moved every 4 weeks on a rota which includes the 5 approved locations.

The rota is created every 12 months but is not made public so that the Speed Indicator Devices are as efficient as possible.

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

To document how the SIDS are to be used and what the Council commits to doing.

- To act as a visual deterrent to speeding vehicles by placing the devices in areas of speeding concern,
- To attempt to change driver behaviour,
- To promote awareness of personal driving habits.
- To be open about how frequently the devices need to be moved, and that this is organised safely and legally.
- To commit to publishing the locations that are approved and those that are under review.

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- To ensure accurate record keeping
- To ensure continuity of accountability and responsibility

LEGAL ISSUES

Under Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.S.72 the Town Council has the power to provide traffic signs and other notices.

There are no legislative powers for Parish Councils under the Highways Act to erect Speed Indicator Devices on the highway. To facilitate the installation of these signs the Highway Authority must consent to their use on the highway at sites approved by the Highway Authority, and subject to the Council entering into a licence agreement.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Town Council will consider applications from members of the public to provide Speed Indicator Devices at areas of speeding concern.

Andover Town Council confirms that it complies with the Hampshire County Council guidance (Apr2023) for speed sign lighting.

To comply with legislation, Andover Town Council will:

- Move each Sid every 4 weeks
- Employ only qualified installation and maintenance contractors.
- Ensure that the relevant licences and permissions are obtained before installation.

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