# Community Speed Watch

## Umberleigh and Atherington – report dated 3 June 2025

**Executive Summary**

CSW has been operating since 29 November 2024. A small group of volunteers actively taking steps to prove that there is an issue with speeding vehicles. If more permanent traffic calming measures are not introduced it is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident. Maximum speeds recorded in Umberleigh of more than 57mph immediately outside the entrance to the school. 12% of all third letters issued in Devon and Cornwall are from Umberleigh and Atherington. 1,186 vehicles exceeding the speed limit in last 3 months (taken over 14 speed watch sessions).

**Statistics**

Currently there are 10 approved and active sites in Umberleigh, Chittlehampton and Atherington with between 4-6 active members in Umberleigh and 7-9 in Atherington. See Appendix for details of approved sites.

Regular sessions have been held for the last **6 months** at these sites, the first session being in Umberleigh on 29 November 2024. Since that time to the present, the total number of cars recorded exceeding the speed limit were **819 in Umberleigh** (30mph zone) and **367 in Atherington** (20mph zone)

Umberleigh represents approx. **1%** of all active CSW locations in Devon and Cornwall but have recorded approximately **6% or all offending vehicles** according the data from the last 3 months - 6% of all first letters, 6% of second letters and 5% of third letters (See Appendix).

Atherington represents approx. **2%** of all active CSW locations in Devon and Cornwall but have recorded approximately **5% or all offending vehicles** according the data from the last 3 months - 5% of all first letters, 6% of second letters and 7% of third letters (See Appendix).

This demonstrates a clear need for more permanent traffic calming measures. In the three months to April 2025 42 third letters were issued by D&C Police, 5 of these from the CSW teams in Umberleigh and Atherington This means **12%** **of the more prolific offenders in the whole of Devon and Cornwall are passing through Umberleigh and Atherington.**

1 driver has had a visit from police due to threatening behaviour.

Of all vehicles passing during the 14 sessions held were travelling at or above the threshold to be recorded.

# Summary of stats for 3 months from Devon and Cornwall Police.

## Umberleigh Sites

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total 3 months to April 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Umberleigh  | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | - | - | - |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 6,583 | 382 | 5.8% |
| First Letters | 5,622 | 343 | 6.1% |
| Second Letters | 329 | 19 | 5.8% |
| Third Letters | 42 | 2 | 4.8% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| April 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Umberleigh  | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | 142 | 2 | 1.4% |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 2,684 | 69 | 2.6% |
| First Letters | 2,351 | 61 | 2.6% |
| Second Letters | 107 | 5 | 4.7% |
| Third Letters | 14 | 1 | 7.1% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| March 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Umberleigh  | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | 152 | 1 | 0.7% |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 2,219 | 85 | 3.8% |
| First Letters | 1,851 | 75 | 4.1% |
| Second Letters | 134 | 3 | 2.2% |
| Third Letters | 18 | 0 | 0.0% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| February 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Umberleigh | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | 114 | 1 | 0.9% |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 1,680 | 228 | 13.6% |
| First Letters | 1,420 | 207 | 14.6% |
| Second Letters | 88 | 11 | 12.5% |
| Third Letters | 10 | 1 | 10.0% |

## Atherington Sites

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total 3 months to April 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Atherington  | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | - | - | - |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 6,583 | 321 | 4.9% |
| First Letters | 5,622 | 287 | 5.1% |
| Second Letters | 329 | 20 | 6.1% |
| Third Letters | 42 | 3 | 7.1% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| April 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Atherington | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | 142 | 4 | 2.8% |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 2,684 | 198 | 7.3% |
| First Letters | 2,351 | 180 | 7.7% |
| Second Letters | 107 | 10 | 9.4% |
| Third Letters | 14 | 2 | 14.3% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| March 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Atherington | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | 152 | 2 | 1.3% |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 2,219 | 73 | 3.3% |
| First Letters | 1,851 | 66 | 3.6% |
| Second Letters | 134 | 5 | 3.7% |
| Third Letters | 18 | 1 | 5.6% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| February 25 | All Devon and Cornwall | Atherington | % |
| Number of CSW Locations  | 114 | 3 | 2.6% |
| Numbers of Offending Vehicles | 1,680 | 50 | 3.0% |
| First Letters | 1,420 | 41 | 2.9% |
| Second Letters | 88 | 5 | 5.7% |
| Third Letters | 10 | 0 | 0.0% |

# Locations

## Below is a list of Approved Locations as at date of report

Umberleigh Locations Approved

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CB12053 | B3227 | Both Directions | Driveway to property called Bramley  |
| CB12676 | B3227 | Travelling South West  | Layby opposite Antiques Shop |
| CB12402 | A377 | Both Directions | Behind wall of church on junction |

Chittlehampton Locations Approved

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CB12624 | unnamed | Traffic heading West | Driveway to property called Clifton  |
| CB12873 | unnamed | Traffic heading South West | Driveway to property called Hobbslea |

Atherington Approved Locations

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CB12171 | B3227 | Traffic heading East | On grass area in front of wooden seating next to metal pole |
| CB12176 | B3217 | Traffic heading North West | Pavement at the jct to the Old Sawmills |
| CB12401 | B3217 | Traffic heading South | To stand on the elevated grass area by small sports pavilion sign. |
| CB12622 | B3227 | Traffic heading West | To stand at entrance to field with wooden gate way . |
| CB12641 | B3227 | Traffic heading East | To stand outside the church across the jct from Rose Cott behind the stone wall (speed monitoring to begin when vehiles have reached entrance to field where 20mph repeater sign is mounted) |

Background

The CSW is a volunteer scheme in conjunction with the police to raise awareness of the need for drivers to adhere to the speed particularly in towns and villages. The scheme was originally established in Umberleigh because of the excessive speed that vehicles were travelling through the village particularly the B3227 (30 mph) and A377 (30mph).

Umberleigh School is located on one of the most active speeding roads in the village, together with a well used footpath which crosses this road and as such the CSW aims to raise awareness of the need for drivers to abide by the 30mph speed limit but also to raise awareness of the issue at Parish Council and County Council level **in order that traffic calming measures can be introduced**.