

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. 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 recording approx. **6% or all offending vehicles** according to 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 recording approx. **5% or all offending vehicles** according to 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 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 beyond 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 vehicles 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 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.**