

Outdated?



A **21st century** solution is required to sympathetically manage speeds within our communities...

Community Speed Enforcement

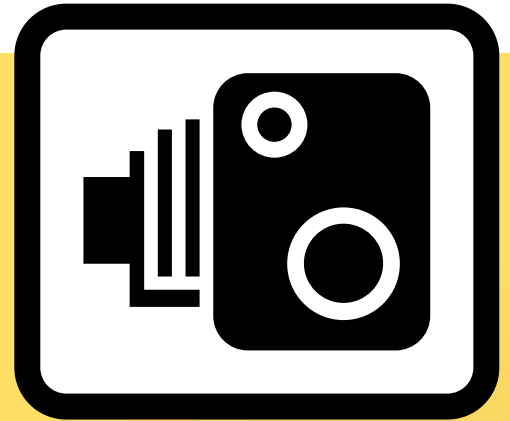
The need for a national policy change on cameras

The issue

Speeding is a concern regularly raised by communities across Leicestershire. In the past three years over 500 speed-related complaints were received through Leicestershire County Council's Environment & Transport department.

Change is required

Leicestershire County Council is seeking policy change to allow communities to have technology to manage speeds and enforce our speed limits.



Suggested changes to national policy on camera site criteria and funding

Speed cameras are regularly requested by communities plagued by speeding problems. The current DfT guidelines for siting cameras frequently prevent the Council from taking action to meet the concerns of local communities. In November 2015, a DfT ministerial letter reminded authorities of the importance of fundamentally adhering to guidelines. Residents continue to demand action but we are powerless to help and find it increasingly difficult to defend current DfT policy.

Policy change one:

The criteria for siting cameras needs to change to allow more flexibility to address community needs and concerns.

Selecting a site should have two basic criteria:

- 1) A speeding problem exists.
- 2) There is local support for the installation of a camera through community engagement.

Policy change two:

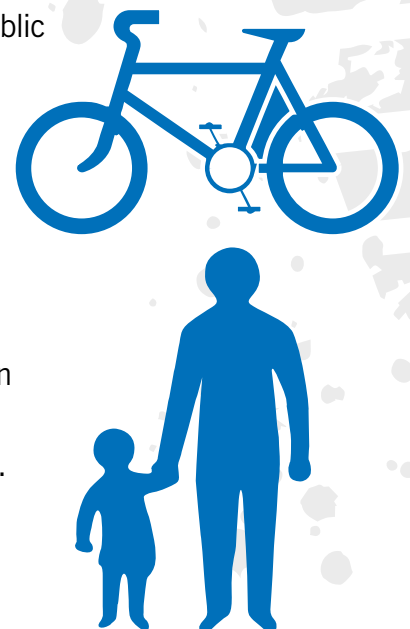
Speeding fines are currently passed to central government. To allow speed cameras to be installed at sites identified by local communities a second policy change is required. This would enable money from fines to be diverted back to local communities to fund cameras. Once a camera is paid for surplus fines would revert back to central government.

These policy changes would bring a significant benefit to communities that raise speeding concerns. The ability to install speed cameras more freely will reduce road deaths and injuries and improve the quality of life for the communities we serve.

Speeding also affects walking and cycling rates and ultimately impacts on public health, this is backed up by guidance from NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence).

When the new government strategy to encourage walking and cycling was launched in March 2016, Transport Minister Robert Goodwill said: *"We are determined to make this country a cycling and walking nation, comparable to the very best in the world."*

Local communities look to the Council and Leicestershire Police to take action against speeding and resolve their concerns. Our proposed policy changes would offer significant benefits for local communities with speeding concerns.



The Leicestershire police's quarterly 'Community Based Survey' regularly receives comments regarding speeding motorists. Comments from a recent survey include:

"There are traffic calming measures to be put in place and the council have chosen speed bumps but the residents want cameras."

Burbage - Hinckley & Bosworth



"There are parking issues and speeding at schools times. We do have community speed watch but people see them and slow down. I think we need a speed camera in the area."

Birstall - Charnwood



Concerns are also raised by Members of Parliament:

+10

"I have been contacted by my constituent in respect of his concerns about speeding traffic and the road safety implications of this. He makes the suggestion that speed cameras should be installed."

Leicestershire MP

Speeding fact file

Road danger influences transport choice. Slower speeds help to encourage walking and cycling in turn bringing health benefits through active travel¹

Cameras are an effective way of reducing speeding and contribute to casualty reduction²



The risk of death is approximately **four times higher** when a pedestrian is hit at 40mph than at 30mph³

+5

+10

Speed surveys at 104 community concern sites show that **18%** of motorists are exceeding the speed limit by more than 5mph and **8%** by 10mph⁴

Traditional traffic calming – extremely useful for the past decades but it could now be described as an outdated solution to speed management and often not in keeping with the local environment.



Average speed cameras – this technology could provide greater speed compliance than traditional traffic calming as well as offering a more visually sympathetic approach within communities.



Average speed cameras in use in Woodseaves, Staffordshire. Camera on entry, exit and middle of the village.

This issue for local authorities' is that camera policy needs to change to allow technology to be funded by offenders for the benefit of the communities we serve.

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