

## Site Selection Criteria for a Traffic Survey

Traffic surveys use equipment placed on carriageways, comprising of two rubber tubes stretched across the carriageway and a data box, secured to street furniture, collecting data for 24 hours per day over a 7-day period on the speed and volumes of vehicles. The equipment may be on site for up to two weeks. Traffic surveys are only conducted during school term times.

**The following points must be followed when selecting a survey site.** If the criteria are not met, the data quality will be poor, and results may be inaccurate.

- For Community Speed Watch and community concern sites, traffic surveys will only be approved in 20mph, 30mph and 40mph limits. **Any locations above 40mph will need approval from a Highways officer.**
- **Sites must be at least 100 metres from a change of speed limit.**
- **Select sites where most traffic is travelling at a constant speed across the tubes.** Wherever possible, avoid sites where vehicles are accelerating or decelerating due to sharp bends, steep inclines, traffic signals, near junctions, near pedestrian crossings or on-street parked vehicles. Avoid sites where vehicles may need to stop over the tubes.
- Ensure that traffic will cross at right angles to the tubes as far as possible. Avoid sites where vehicles may turn across the tubes or where vehicles may change lanes.
- **Ensure there is a suitable securing point for the roadside unit,** such as street furniture, trees or posts. The data box is secured with a padlock and chain - any posts must be tall enough so that it cannot be lifted over the top. Use of posts on private property will require permission from the landowner.
- Consideration for the safety of the deployment officers is paramount. Any location deemed too high risk for deployment will not be completed – notification of this will come from the contractors via Wiltshire Council Road Safety Team.

Please include as much information for the location as possible, including house numbers, lamp column numbers, road name and/or number and maps or map links. If possible, please give the 'What3Words' reference for the location ([www.what3words.com](http://www.what3words.com)) as this helps our external contractors to identify specific locations, particularly in rural areas. Please avoid local nicknames for locations, for example "the green" to refer to a park area as this may delay the application.

**If the site selected is not suitable for the equipment, the deployment staff will locate the equipment in a more suitable place as close to the requested site as possible.**

The Road Safety team will try to answer any questions regarding the above points but are unable to visit sites in person.

Locations are not eligible for repeat survey within a 12-month period, unless there are exceptional circumstances and approval from the Highways Officer.

The recorded 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is used to determine if the site enters the thresholds for intervention.

<b>Speed Limit (MPH)</b>	<b>No further action</b>	<b>Community Speed Watch</b>	<b>Police Enforcement</b>
20mph	20 mph to 24 mph	24.1 mph to 38.9 mph	Over 39 mph
30mph	30 mph to 35 mph	35.1 mph to 41.9 mph	Over 42 mph
40mph	40 mph to 46 mph	46.1 mph to 49.9 mph	Over 50 mph

The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile is the speed at or below which 85% of the traffic is travelling. This is the standard method of assessing traffic speed in the UK. Community Speedwatch teams cannot operate in areas with a speed limit over 40mph.