

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Council		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	23rd October 2025 7 pm	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Cathy Dean – Communities Manager		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	14 Speed Indication Device		
Background	<p>The Town Council has received several requests from people wanting Speed Indication Devices (SIDs) fitted on their roads. Although Road Safety is a Cheshire East function, and speeding is a criminal offence dealt with by the Police, the requests find their way to Town and Parish Councils.</p> <p>The Town Council does not currently own any working Speed Indication Devices; those in existence in Congleton are owned by CEC. Current locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buxton Road – near the junction with Buxton Old Road (inbound towards Congleton Town)• Park Lane – adjacent to 32A Park Lane (inbound towards Congleton Town)• Newcastle Road – opposite Astbury Garage (inbound towards Congleton Town)• Padgbury Lane – two locations, one in each direction• Leek Road – two locations with flashing 30mph signs, one in each direction• Leek Road (Railway Bridge) – one location with a "Slow Down" flashing sign activated when exceeding 30mph <p>Speed Indication Devices are effective in warning drivers about their speed and usually result in drivers slowing down.</p> <p>CO/17/2425 – Resolved to add Speed Indication Devices to a list of items being taken into Business planning and budget setting activities.</p> <p>CO/03/2526 - Resolved to recommend the purchase of a solar-powered Speed Indicator Device (SID) with data-logging capability, within a budget range of £4,000 to £6000, and submit 3 quotes to Full Council during business planning and budget setting for approval.</p>		

Summary

Cllr Heather Seddon has requested a Speed Indicator Device set up on the A34 Newcastle Road by The Mount, to slow the speed of traffic along that stretch of road.

Cllr Seddon's Cheshire East ward budget would be used to purchase 2 poles for the SID (around £2000 each). SID devices can be fitted to suitable poles, like signposts, if available in the location.

Location of poles facing Southwest-bound traffic and one facing North-bound traffic:

Proposed location of SID:

Site 1: A34 Newcastle Road / The Mount. Facing Southwest bound traffic



Coordinates: 53.16198, -2.23431 or W3W [///urban.movies.plenty](https://www.urban.movies.plenty)

Site 2: A34 Newcastle Road. Facing North bound traffic



Coordinates: 53.1589, -2.2352 or W3W [caves.sheep.cycles](https://www.what3words.com/caves.sheep.cycles)

Mobile Solar-Power SID

The only viable option is a device powered by solar, which eliminates the need for a power supply or changing/charging batteries.

Basic data-logging is included in hardware, but cloud access or real-time reporting will come with annual fees. Essential for measuring impact and justifying continued investment. Include approx. £250–£500/year for cloud subscription, depending on provider and usage.

CEC Highways will charge £115 for a licence per functioning SID.

Cheshire East Speed Management Strategy (2003) states: “There is a strong preference for SIDs to be a temporary device that can be moved between locations on a regular basis, thereby they can be used over a wider area in an urban setting as a visible measure for the wider local community.”

There will be two poles at the Newcastle Road location and an existing pole on Manchester Road, where the SID can be rotated.

Quotes for Solar-Powered SID

Officers have contacted 5 companies. As of 8th September, 3 companies have supplied written quotes:

	<p>Company 1 - Total excl. VAT: £ 3052.74 – includes a 24-month 4G contract for data connectivity (£266.97)</p> <p>Company 2 – Total excl. VAT - £3383.00 (data contract would be extra)</p> <p>Company 3 – Total excl. VAT - £3580.00 (data contract would be extra)</p> <p>An Officer can collect data via Bluetooth to a mobile device; it would involve periodically visiting the device to manually download speed data.</p>
Financial Implications	Currently, there is no budget for the purchase or for the running costs of a device. There is an Ear Marked Reserve of £4357 for traffic calming /crime prevention. (EMR 324). The purchase of this SID will leave a balance of £1,305. The first resolution listed above states that this needs to be discussed at business planning and budget setting. If approved to purchase, the costs will be spent from the Crime Reduction cost centre a small increase will be required to support annual costs.
Environmental Implications	Solar-powered models are ideal for the environment. They minimise maintenance and keep operating costs low.
Equality and Diversity	The product is aimed at reducing speeds, which has positive benefits for all sectors of our community, but especially for pedestrians and cyclists.
Decision Requested	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree to purchase a SID for £3052.74, which includes a 24-month 4G contract from Ear Marked Reserve 324 Crime Prevention/Traffic Calming. 2. Pay a yearly licence fee to Cheshire East Council, currently £115. 3. To note that Congleton Town Council would be responsible for any maintenance costs outside of the warranty on the device and that Streetscape Operatives would be tasked with moving the device between locations.