

## **APPENDIX to Section 4 (from the June 2024 Minutes)**

### **Update on LaGTAC (Lowton and Golborne Traffic Advisory Committee) activities including CSW (Community Speed Watch)**

#### **LaGTAC and GMP's CSW speed measurement studies**

- Early 2021 LaGTAC analysed the results of their own Lowton and Golborne survey on perceived speeding hotspots.
- 219 Residents responded to the survey nominating 43 roads.
- Residents were adamant that someone should take the lead in monitoring speeds on local roads with a view to improving safety for all road users. Wigan Council and GMP had undertaken few very limited speed checks over the last decade.
- Individual volunteers within LaGTAC have now taken well in excess of 50 speed studies on 20, 30 and 40mph roads. Speed measurements have been made which enable statistical analysis to be undertaken to define many parameters, including means and 85<sup>th</sup> percentiles and speed distribution curves. These activities are continuing – but LaGTAC do need more volunteers to provide data for analysis. These data are essential to enable the effect of CSW on slowing excessively speeding motorists to be evaluated.
- Back in 2021 LaGTAC hypothesised that vehicle drivers on thoroughfare roads within Lowton and Golborne wished to drive **on average at ca.35mph irrespective of the local speed limits of 40, 30 and 20mph. Data to date seems to support this.** TBA.
- Over the period 2020 to date LaGTAC have been engaged in meetings with GMP Neighbourhood Policing and the GMP Traffic Enforcement Unit. Two years ago, GMP took over the role of Community Speed Watch from Wigan Council. LaGTAC have since 2024 added the new GMP 'CSW' studies to their portfolio of activities.
- LaGTAC have no powers of enforcement and simply act as intelligence and data gatherers, passing their information on to their local residents, Wigan Council and GMP (for their enforcement unit to consider further actions).
- Over the last 12 months LaGTAC have been liaising with GMP on a bi-monthly basis in respect of GMP's new Community (Neighbourhood) Speed Watch (CSW) scheme.
- Throughout the Wigan Borough there are eleven CSW volunteers wishing to become GMP-PSVs (Police Support Volunteers) with 4 volunteers coming from Lowton East.
- GMP-PSVs are not front-line police officers, but when CSW trained are passive observers who will be able to issue warning letters to speeding motorists (via their GMP liaison officers) stating their non-compliance with speed limits. CSW activity volunteers will always wear high-vis clothing.
- CSW volunteers work closely with GMP neighbourhood policing and traffic enforcement officers and will often conduct joint exercises. Although CSW volunteers have no enforcement powers the traffic police will be equipped with TruCam2 laser units and will be able to record vehicles and issue NiPs (Notices of intended Prosecution). So, please be aware of anyone who is wearing Hi-Vis jackets at the side of the road.
- Once again, the Lowton and Golborne community are looking for residents to volunteer for Community Speed Watch (CSW) training. You simply need to be over 18 and have no criminal convictions. [NB. Speeding endorsements do not go against you!]. For further information please contact GW via LENDF or LaGTAC. Alternatively visit the GMP web site.

#### **An example of the effect of CSW activities on speed reduction:**

A summary of vehicle speed data collected for Sandy Lane, Lowton (**20mph SL**) is as follows:

Date		Ave (mph)	% > SL	% > SL+15 i.e. 35mph	Min (mph)	Max (mph)
Oct 2020	LaGTAC	31.7	96	26	17	47
Feb 2023	LaGTAC	29.5	96	37	20	44
<b>05 May 2024</b>	<b>GMP-CSW</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>31</b>
10 May 2024*	LaGTAC	30.6	97	15	20	40

Latest measurement\* shows that average speed is back to its former level (ca.30mph) with a significant number of excessive speeders – and above the UK average of 11%. Sandy Lane will be due for another random GMP-CSW visit in the near future. NB. 5 vehicle owners sent a speeding warning letter.

### **Recent accidents on Slag Lane and Newton Rd.**

Following accidents during the last month GW has requested more detailed information from GMP and TfGM (subject to GDPR and sub judice restrictions). Accidents on Slag Lane over the last 3 years (following the sad fatality in 2021) have not been attributed to excessive speeding.

LaGTAC has requested joint meetings with GMP, TfGM, local G&LW and LE councillors, Wigan Council highways officers etc., to discuss road safety issues on these roads for all road users and to examine root causes of these incidents.

Observational studies have indicated that a significant number of motorists are driving without due care and attention (use of mobile phones etc – up to a staggering 30% of drivers) and not concentrating on road conditions etc. Inattention to traffic is also noted for a significant number of pedestrians with mobile phones.