

19/131IV CLERKS REPORT:

COMMUNITY SAFETY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (CSAS)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

“The CSAS is a voluntary scheme under which chief constables can choose to accredit employed people already working in roles that contribute to maintaining and improving community safety with limited but targeted powers. These roles include neighbourhood wardens, hospital security guards, park wardens, shopping mall guards and train guards.

The scheme creates a framework for public and private bodies to work in partnership with the police, providing additional uniformed presence in communities and capitalising on the skills and information captured by those already engaged with the community.

All schemes are managed, monitored and assessed at a local level by the responsible police force. Main benefits of the scheme include:

- increasing uniformed presence on the streets (CSAS accredited persons wear the uniform of their employing organisation, with an identification badge endorsed by the local police force);
- reductions in local issues such as street drinking, begging and dog fouling;
- saving valuable police time in community safety to deal with low-level crime and disorder;
- promoting greater business involvement with the police, and allowing the police to influence the training of businesses, e.g. security companies;
- promoting partnership working and the 2-way exchange of information and intelligence between agencies.” (Home Office, 2012)

There are not direct powers within CSAS for parking as this is a local authority responsibility not a police matter. The CSAS does not enable members of the community to become voluntary traffic wardens or permit volunteers to carry out any sort of parking control. This seemed to be at odds with the explanation of the Scheme that had been given to one of our Councillors, so clarification was sought. Devon and Cornwall Police’s CiP¹ Development Officer advised “Currently the only volunteering link in with supporting these issues from our side of things is around the Community Speed Watch (CSW) schemes, assisting with the monitoring of speed within an area. Unfortunately, none of our other volunteering roles would support issues around parking or traffic issues. As you may know, vehicles parked/abandoned on the road isn’t something the police get involved with anymore, unless it’s essentially causing an obstruction to other road users or it is left in an ‘anti-social’ manner such as at a junction. As such, we’ve unfortunately no need to try and look at slotting a volunteer into this function as when the police are required, police powers are utilised and as such a Police Officer would attend. Failing this, and often the case, a call to the local authority would happen to manage the vehicle.”

Appendix A contains a list of powers that may be awarded under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme.

¹ Communities In Policing

THE CSAS IN DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AREA

Devon and Cornwall Police supports the Scheme; a list of registered scheme users can be found here: <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/advice/your-community/your-opportunities-to-help/community-safety-accreditation-scheme-csas/csas-community-safety-and-traffic-management-schemes/> In Cornwall it seems to be used by a few Town Councils to help address specific issues to their town: Newquay and Helston seem to use the Scheme for vagrancy/moving people on, whereas St Ives is using it for traffic control and dogs on beaches. There are no Parish or Town Councils in Devon currently in the Scheme, only District Councils.

St Ives Town Council had useful feedback on the scheme: “we have done this now for a number of summer seasons. St Ives gets so busy with traffic that their primary focus is directing traffic to try to ensure a smooth flow of traffic around the town. In addition, they assist in enforcing Cornwall Councils PSPO limiting dogs on beaches. In terms of previous experiences, general views are that this has been helpful and, given the scale of our summer population, necessary. However, there are several issues. In order to direct traffic, the individuals need CSAS accreditation with the police and training. The vetting alone can take a month and getting the training for seasonal staff in a timely way is a challenge. We employed 1 staff member for 20 hours a week, they were paid £10 per hour plus on-costs so for the Summer season this was approximately £4,000. Feedback was that this is a very stressful role for one person working alone and in a busy seaside town like St Ives can expose them to verbal abuse and aggressive behaviour.

This year a few towns are in discussions with Cornwall Council to joint fund multi skilled environmental enforcement officers who can enforce traffic, parking and other bye-law issues and will be supported by a wider team.” (St Ives Town Council, 2019)

D&C Police have a useful page on the Scheme: <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/3314>.

CSAS ACCREDITED PERSONNEL

The CSAS accredited person must have a contract of employment: it must be a uniformed role and must be easily identifiable. It is not for volunteers. (Brodest, 07 August 2019). CSAS personnel have the same powers as a PCSO: they have the power to stop and direct traffic and pedestrians. Failure to comply is an offence, in such cases the CSAS accredited person has the power to request their name and address.

Supervision and Accountability

If Broadclyst PC was to become accredited under the scheme, there will be an impact on Officer time:

- “Managers within the organisation must also undergo training even if they are not accredited to be able to appropriately supervise accredited persons
- ‘On street’ supervision should be carried out at times
- Each organisation that has accreditation must designate a senior member of staff who will be responsible for ensuring compliance with standards set in CSAS e.g. a manager or company director.” (Home Office, 2013)

This would be something to refer to the Staffing Committee and reflect in the autumn budget.

COMMUNITY SAFETY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (CSAS) MANAGER MEETING REPORT

On 7th August 2019, Cllrs Gent, L Straw, and the Clerk met with the CSAS Manager. A background was given, and parking (both dangerous and inconsiderate) problems pertinent to Broadclyst were outlined. Dangerous parking is a Police matter and is in part defined by visibility; inconsiderate parking near properties and ignoring double yellow lines is a matter for the Local Authority to enforce. The Travel Clinics at the Primary school were explained, as were the efforts by the school to date to address the parking issues (including the school minibus service).

The use of powers is a last resort, and a proactive, collaborative approach, as echoed in the Exeter City Futures report, is often the best way forward. The CSAS is about a relationship with the community and raising awareness in order to reduce antisocial activity and behaviour.

East Devon District Council (EDDC) is accredited and this is mainly used for habitat controls and protection. The CSAS Manager will speak to EDDC to see if the work of these Community Safety Wardens could be extended to cover community traffic management.

OPERATION SNAP

Operation Snap is a secure online facility which allows submissions of video and photographic evidence relating to driving incidents that members of the public have witnessed. Operation Snap will investigate offences of dangerous driving, driving without due care and attention, careless driving, using a handheld mobile phone, not wearing a seat belt, contravening a red traffic light, contravening solid white lines, and other offences where the driver is clearly not in proper control of the vehicle. Devon and Cornwall's website does state that "Any reports of parking offences should be referred to the relevant local council or highway authority in the locality where it occurred." (Devon & Cornwall Police, 2019) However, the CSAS Manager will clarify this with the SNAP team.

For footage of any other types of offences not covered by Operation Snap, contact the relevant authority (which generally tends to be the Police or the Local Authority) and provide them with the footage. The Police can either be contacted via 101 or their website.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The question of enforcement often arises where roads in strategic developments are not yet adopted by DCC/Highways. It was noted that the powers of the Police apply to all public areas regardless of the adopted status of the highway, whereas the Local Authority can only enforce on adopted roads.

The lack of contact between Police and community was highlighted, as was the lack of a visual police presence. It was explained that Policing priorities have changed, and a Councillor Advocate network has been introduced to help bridge the gap between Police and community. Contact details will be forwarded.

There may be community grants for community self-help. Contact details will be forwarded.

Broadclyst lies outside city/town centre areas currently regularly patrolled by Civil Enforcement Officers. It is not yet clear if the Parish Council can 'buy' Civil Enforcement Officer time from the principal authority.

SUMMARY

Whilst there is no question that Clyst Caring staff and village residents should be subject to abuse, I'm not sure that the CSAS scheme is the right way to go about solving the ongoing problems with inconsiderate and illegal parking. However, there may be merit in exploring further with EDDC and neighbouring Councils to see if an area/Ward CSAS Warden could be an option, with time deployed to and shared amongst parishes as needed during the working week.

It is possible a trial for a Ward/West End CSAS warden might qualify as a project for funding through Crowdfund Devon², potentially meeting criteria for the DCC Community Chest fund³. The first stage is to speak with the Division Members.

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St Ives Town Council, 2019. *CSAS enquiry*, s.l.: s.n.

² <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/grants-and-funding/grants-available-from-us/crowdfunding/>

³ <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/devon-community-chest>

Appendix A

COMMUNITY SAFETY ACCREDITATION SCHEME POWERS – updated February 2015

Chief Officers may choose to give accredited persons all, some or none of the below powers.

TABLE 1 lists the powers that Chief Officers may confer on accredited persons (NB: powers that have been repealed since this list was last updated are also included for information).

TABLE 2 lists the offences under Chapter 1 Part 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 for which accredited persons may be accredited with a power to issue a fixed penalty notice for disorder. If a Chief Officer of police accredits an accredited person with powers under paragraph 1 of Schedule 5 of the Police Reform Act 2002, he or she may choose whether to give the accredited person the power to issue fixed penalty notices for all of the available fixed penalty offences or a selection of them (NB: powers that have been repealed since the last update are also included for information).

TABLE 1

Power	Relevant Legislation
Power to issue penalty notices for disorder: Power of a constable to give a penalty notice under Chapter 1 of Part 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (fixed penalty notices in respect of offences of disorder) except in respect of an offence under section 12 of the Licensing Act 1872, section 91 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, section 1 of the Theft Act 1968, section 1(1) of the Criminal Damage Act 1971 and section 87 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. (See below for a list of penalty notices for disorder that accredited persons can issue)	Paragraph 1(2)(aa) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 89(1) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for truancy: Power of a constable to give a penalty notice under section 444A of the Education Act 1996 (penalty notice in respect of failure to secure regular attendance at school of registered pupil).	Paragraph 1(2)(ab) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 23(6) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to issue fixed penalty notice in respect of an excluded pupil in a public place: Power of a constable to give a penalty notice under section 105 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (penalty notice in respect of presence of excluded pupil in public place).	Paragraph 1(2)(ac) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 107(4) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006)
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for cycling on a footpath: Power of a constable in uniform to give a person a	Paragraph 1(2)(a) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002

fixed penalty notice under section 54 of the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988 (fixed penalty notices) in respect of an offence under section 72 of the Highway Act 1835 (riding on a footway) committed by cycling.	
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling (REPEALED – see exception below): Power of an authorised officer of a local authority to give a notice under section 4 of the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 (fixed penalty notices in respect of dog fouling). This power (and the 1996 Act) has now been repealed in relation to England and Wales by section 107 and Schedule 5 Part 5 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. However the power continues to have effect in respect of any land which remains designated land under the 1996 Act (see article 4 of Statutory Instrument 2006/795).	Paragraph 1(2)(b) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (REPEALED but see aside exception)
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for graffiti and fly-posting: Power of an authorised officer of a local authority to give a notice under section 43(1) of the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 (penalty notices in respect of graffiti or fly-posting).	Paragraph 1(2)(ba) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 46(2)(b) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for littering: Power of an authorised officer of a litter authority to give a notice under section 88 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (fixed penalty notices in respect of litter).	Paragraph 1(2)(c) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to issue fixed penalty notices in respect of offences under dog control orders (REPEALED): Power of an authorised officer of a primary or secondary authority, within the meaning of section 59 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, to give a notice under that section (fixed penalty notices in respect of offences under dog control orders).	Paragraph 1(2)(d) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 62(3) of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005) REPEALED by Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, s181(1), Schedule 11, Part 1, Paragraph 33 as of 20 October 2014
Power to issue fixed penalty notices in relation to offences against certain byelaws: Power of an authorised officer of an authority to give a notice under section 237A of the Local Government Act 1972	Paragraph 1A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 133 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007). In force from 27 January 2010, except for para 1A(3) and (5)(a) - see

where the accredited person has reason to believe an individual has committed an offence against a relevant byelaw.	Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (Commencement No 9) Order 2010 (SI 2010/112), article 2(e)
Power to require giving of name and address: Power to require the name and address of a person whom an accredited person has reason to believe has committed a relevant offence (Relevant offences are defined under paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 5 of the Police Reform Act 2002 as relevant fixed penalty offences in relation to which the accredited person is able to give a fixed penalty notice under paragraph 1 of Schedule 5 or an offence that appears to the accredited person to have caused injury, alarm or distress to another person or loss of or damage to another person's property. It also includes an offence under a relevant byelaw within the meaning of paragraph 1A). It is an offence to fail to comply with an accredited person's requirement.	Paragraph 2 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to deal with begging: The Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 makes offences under sections 3 and 4 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 into relevant offences, giving accredited persons the power to request the name and address of someone who has committed such an offence.	Paragraph 2(3)(aa) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (see paragraph 18 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005)
Power to require name and address for anti-social behaviour: Power of a constable in uniform under section 50 of the Police Reform Act 2002 to require a person whom he has reason to believe to have been acting, or to be acting, in an anti-social manner (within the meaning of section 1 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998) to give his name and address.	Paragraph 3 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to require name and address for road traffic offences: Power of a constable under sections 165(1)(c) and 169 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 to require the name and address where the accredited person has reasonable cause to believe certain offences under that Act have been committed.	Paragraph 3A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by paragraph 19 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005)

Power to require persons drinking in designated places to surrender alcohol: Power of a constable under section 12 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (alcohol consumption in public places) to require a person whom an accredited person reasonably believes is, or has been, consuming alcohol in a designated public place or intends to do so, to not consume that alcohol (anything which is, or which the accredited person reasonably believes to be alcohol, or a container for alcohol) and to surrender any alcohol or container for alcohol. Power to dispose of alcohol surrendered to him.	Paragraph 4 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to require persons aged under 18 to surrender alcohol: Power of a constable under section 1 of the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act 1997 (confiscation of intoxicating liquor) to require a person in a relevant place who he reasonably suspects is in possession of alcohol and is either aged under 18 or is or has been supplying alcohol to a person aged under 18 to surrender any alcohol in his possession and to give their name and address. Power to require such a person to surrender sealed containers of alcohol if the accredited person has reason to believe that the person is, has been or intends to consume alcohol. Power to dispose of alcohol surrendered to him.	Paragraph 5 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to seize tobacco from a person aged under 16: Power of a constable in uniform to seize any tobacco or cigarette papers in the possession of any person apparently under the age of 16 years found smoking in any street or public place and to dispose of any tobacco and cigarette papers as the employer of the accredited person may direct.	Paragraph 6 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to remove abandoned vehicles: Powers in the relevant police area as are conferred on an accredited person by regulations made under section 99 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (removal of abandoned vehicles).	Paragraph 7 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to stop vehicles for testing:	Paragraph 8 of Schedule 5 to the Police

Powers of a constable in uniform to stop vehicles for the purposes of testing under section 67 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.	Reform Act 2002
Power to stop cycles: Powers of a constable in uniform to stop a cycle under section 163(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 when an accredited person has reason to believe that a person has committed the offence of riding on a footway by cycling.	Paragraph 8A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 89(6) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to control traffic for purposes other than escorting a load of exceptional dimensions: The Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 enables accredited persons to be given powers to direct traffic (for purposes other than escorting loads of exceptional dimensions) based on the powers constables have under sections 35 and 37 of the Road Traffic Act 1988. It also gives accredited persons the power of a constable to direct traffic for the purposes of conducting a traffic survey. Accredited persons conferred with powers under this paragraph must also be given powers under paragraph 3A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act.	Paragraph 8B of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by paragraph 20 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005)
Power to direct traffic for the purposes of escorting abnormal loads: Power of a constable engaged in the regulation of traffic in a road, for the purpose of escorting a vehicle or trailer carrying a load of exceptional circumstances (vehicle or trailer the use of which is authorised by an order made under section 44(1)(d) of the Road Traffic Act 1988) either to or from the relevant police area, to direct a vehicle to stop, to proceed in, or keep to, a particular line of traffic, and to direct pedestrians to stop.	Paragraph 9 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to photograph persons away from a police station: The Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 enables accredited persons to be given the power of a constable under section 64A of the 1984 Act to photograph a person, who has been given a penalty notice under the power at paragraph 1(2), away from the police station.	Paragraph 9ZA of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by paragraph 21 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005)

TABLE 2

Offences for which Accredited Persons may issue penalty notices for disorder under Chapter 1 Part 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001	Relevant legislation
Wasting police time, giving false report.	s.5(2) Criminal Law Act 1967
Using public electronic communications network to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety to another.	s.127(2) Communications Act 2003
Knowingly gives or causes to be given a false alarm of fire to a person acting on behalf of a fire and rescue authority.	s.49 Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004
Behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress.	s.5 Public Order Act 1986
Throwing fireworks.	s.80 Explosives Act 1875 (NB: due to be repealed by the Fireworks Act 2003, Schedule 1, para1 on a date to be appointed)
Sells or attempts to sell alcohol to a person who is drunk.	s.141 Licensing Act 2003
Supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to a person aged under 18.	s.146(3) Licensing Act 2003
Sale of alcohol anywhere to a person under 18.	s.146(1) Licensing Act 2003
Buys or attempts to buy alcohol on behalf of a person under 18.	s.149(3) Licensing Act 2003
Buys or attempts to buy alcohol for consumption on relevant premises by a person under 18	s.149(4) Licensing Act 2003
Delivery of alcohol to person under 18 or allowing such delivery.	s.151 Licensing Act 2003
Breach of fireworks curfew.	Fireworks Regulations 2004 under s11 of the Fireworks Act 2003 NB: Regulation 7(1) has a prohibition on the use of certain fireworks at night.
Possession of a category 4 firework.	Regulation 5 (subject to the exceptions at regulation 6) of Fireworks Regulations 2004 under s11 of the Fireworks Act 2003
Possession by a person under 18 of an adult firework.	Regulation 4 (subject to the exceptions at regulation 6) of the Fireworks Regulations 2004 under s11 of the Fireworks Act 2003
Trespassing on a railway.	s.55 British Transport Commission Act 1949
Throwing stones at a train.	s.56 British Transport Commission Act

	1949
Consume alcohol in a designated public place, contrary to requirement by constable not to do so. REPEALED	s.12(4) Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001- REPEALED by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, s181(1), Schd 11, Pt 1, para 30 as from 20 October 2014.
Consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises.	s.150(1) Licensing Act 2003
Allowing consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises.	s.150(2) Licensing Act 2003
Buying or attempting to buy alcohol by a person under 18.	s.149(1) Licensing Act 2003

Last amendments under Policing and Crime Act (2009) Schedule 7, part 4 re: Alcohol misuse other than mandatory licensing conditions. Affected paragraph 5, schedule 5 Police Reform Act (2002).



Home Office

AN EMPLOYERS' GUIDE TO COMMUNITY SAFETY ACCREDITATION SCHEMES



FOREWORD BY DAVID HANSON MP, MINISTER OF STATE FOR CRIME AND POLICING



Community Safety Accreditation Schemes (CSAS) recognise the major contribution that people like neighbourhood wardens, park rangers and security guards make to public safety. CSAS aims to enhance that contribution through closer working with the police and by granting a limited range of legal powers to accredited persons.

For a low-profile scheme in which participation, both by police forces and by employers is entirely voluntary, community safety accreditation is quite a success story. An audit in 2005 found that there were 945 accredited persons in police force areas operating a scheme. When that audit was repeated in 2009 there were 1667 accredited persons. The number of forces operating schemes is increasing as well. In the last 12 months Cambridgeshire and the Metropolitan Police have both begun pilot schemes.

The reasons for this growth are apparent from the case studies of four quite different employers involved in CSAS that are presented in this guide. Each has found clear benefits, both for the organisation and for the accredited staff, in greater information sharing and closer partnership with the police. This closer partnership helps them to meet their organisational goals while helping to improve community safety. The growing number of police forces operating schemes is evidence that they too are recognising the benefits of this scheme.

This guide highlights how some employers have seized on the potential that accreditation offers and are creating innovative solutions in their local areas that are improving the quality of life of residents through partnership working. I commend these employers for their excellent work and for their willingness to engage with the police in fashioning the important role which both the public and private sectors can play in improving community safety. I now urge those who have yet to take this forward to consider the benefits that are set out in this guide.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY SAFETY ACCREDITATION SCHEME?

Community Safety Accreditation Schemes (CSAS) were introduced by the Police Reform Act 2002. The schemes serve two purposes: -

- To contribute to community safety.
- To combat crime and disorder, public nuisance and other forms of anti-social behaviour in cooperation with the police.

CSAS provides an opportunity for organisations that provide community safety and security services to enter into a formal agreement with their local Chief Officer.

This will enable individual employees to be accredited under the scheme. Accredited employees may be granted limited but targeted powers which allow them to undertake their role more effectively. Annex A describes the available powers and their use.

Police forces which have introduced CSAS within their communities have reported benefits of crime reduction, improved communication and cohesion, and public reassurance. CSAS has also contributed to improving police effectiveness and efficiency.

Please note that no police force is obliged to operate CSAS and some have chosen not to. If you are interested in seeking accreditation, your first step should be to contact your local police force to find out if they operate CSAS.

CASE STUDY: COLCHESTER COMMUNITY STREET WARDENS



Colchester Borough Council employs 10 street wardens to patrol its streets. They are a point of contact for the elderly, the vulnerable and for community groups. Their role includes an element of enforcement of and education about by-laws on littering and dog fouling. They also organise projects such as community allotments, school litter picks and OAP shopping trips. They work in close liaison with partner agencies such as the Highways Agency and housing associations.

All of the street wardens have CSAS accreditation. They have found that this has greatly improved communications with the police. Wardens attend daily police briefings, which are a really good source of information about low level crime and anti-social behaviour. Wardens are made aware of offenders they should be looking out for and of certain properties in the area that it would be unsafe to approach. Partnership working with the police extends to joint patrols and short placements of student officers with the team to learn skills in engaging with the public.

The wardens have a set of eight CSAS powers, carefully chosen to compliment their role. Whereas in the past, wardens could only give advice on issues such as street drinking, they now have the powers to back that up. The wardens have found that since accreditation they are treated with greater respect by the police, by members of the public when issuing a fixed penalty notice, and also when making a statement to court.

WHICH STAFF CAN BE ACCREDITED?

An employer whose staff perform community safety or security roles may seek accreditation for its staff, regardless of whether they are in the public, private or voluntary sector.

A wide range of different people can be accredited, including:

- Local Authority neighbourhood and street wardens
- housing association and countryside wardens
- security guards
- park rangers
- hospital and university security staff
- fire and rescue service personnel
- housing association employees
- environmental health officers
- parking attendants
- stewards at sports stadia

CASE STUDY: BRUNEL UNIVERSITY SECURITY OFFICERS



Brunel University in west London has had a number of its security officers accredited by the Metropolitan Police Service as part of the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS). Home to nearly 17,000 staff and students on its Uxbridge campus, security officers have been granted some powers under the Police Reform Act 2002.

One of the major benefits of accreditation for Brunel has been the improved working relationship with the police. Chris Hoad, security manager at Brunel, feels that CSAS “adds and builds the relationship with the police” with greater trust and respect between university security and the police. The local Safer Neighbourhood Team, including a PC dedicated to the university, is based on the university campus helping to strengthen the relationship further.

The scheme has been well received by students, staff and the local community. Awareness of the accredited officers was raised through flyers, posters and the intranet, and via the local press. CSAS also featured in the student newspaper. The scheme has benefited Brunel’s security officers by building their skills and knowledge, and giving them more confidence. On a personal level, security officers enjoy improved career prospects by working towards accreditation and the more varied and challenging role it entails.

HOW COULD MY ORGANISATION BENEFIT?

CSAS has shown clear benefits to accredited individuals and approved organisations. A series of case studies, conducted in January 2006, showed that CSAS were delivering the following benefits:

- Recognition that your organisation meets standards of management, supervision and accountability.
- Recognition of the aims of your organisation and the important role it plays in increasing community safety and reducing crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.
- Empowerment of employees, making it easier for them to do a good job and raising their profile within the local community.
- Improved working relationships with the Police and all those involved in the provision of community safety patrols leads to the development of a more coordinated and effective service.
- The sharing of information and intelligence will lead to a more locally driven approach, which meets the needs of employers and members of the public and helps to resolve community problems.
- Recognition that the appearance, quality and training of employees meets a good standard.
- Use of nationally recognised insignia.
- Improved career development for accredited persons with new skills and variety to their work.
- Building a safer environment for both employees and the public.



CASE STUDY: SOUTHEASTERN RAILWAY

Southeastern Railway operates train services in south east London, Kent and parts of Surrey and Sussex. It has had staff accredited under the Railway Safety Accreditation Scheme since 2005. The company now has 70 revenue enforcement officers (REO), 17 team leaders and five managers accredited.

The REOs deter crime and are a reassuring presence for passengers. Crime is now greatly reduced and surveys reveal that customer satisfaction and feelings of safety have significantly improved. This has also been reflected in increased revenue through the ticket offices.

While there had been information sharing and some joint operations with the British Transport Police (BTP) prior to 2005, Southeastern Railway has found that accreditation of its staff has helped to build much stronger working relations. REOs are embedded in neighbourhood policing teams in Lewisham and Bromley, while BTP officers attend weekly REO tasking meetings and give monthly intelligence briefings.

BTP provides a full day's input to the REO training course and accredited staff have learned a great deal about how to defuse potential confrontations from working alongside BTP officers.

WHAT WILL MY ORGANISATION BE REQUIRED TO DO?

A PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION AND INFORMATION SHARING

A key part of the accreditation process is the development of a protocol between the applicant organisation and the accrediting force. The aims of this protocol will be to: -

- Create clearly defined methods of communication and for information sharing.
- Create a mutual understanding of the day to day operational issues that relate to both your organisation and the police.
- Describe areas of cooperation and support.

The protocol is drawn up, and regularly reviewed, at a local level to ensure that expectations, operating procedures, lines of communication, appropriate confidentiality rules and safeguards are all in place.

THE STATUS OF YOUR EMPLOYEES

Accredited Persons are not employed by the police. They remain under the full control of their employer. Where the police and the employer have developed deployment arrangements and protocols, accreditation will strengthen this. However, the police have no power to direct the deployment of accredited persons.

LEGAL LIABILITY

It follows from the discussion of the employment status of accredited persons above, that any liability for unlawful conduct by an accredited person while making use of their CSAS powers rests with the employer. For further details, see section 42(8) of the Police Reform Act.

REVIEW OF ACCREDITATION

The Chief Officer may modify or withdraw a person's accreditation at any time. The employer must notify the CSAS Manager of the local force of any change in the circumstances of an employee, such as conviction for a criminal offence, which would bring their suitability to remain accredited into question.

Employers may suspend an employee's accreditation at any time, without prior reference to the local police. This should be considered when managing misconduct, although the employer should notify the CSAS Manager.

All changes to accredited staff must be notified in writing to the CSAS Manager for the accrediting force not more than seven days after the date of change. If an accredited person leaves the employment or ceases to carry out the functions for which the accreditation was granted, then the identification and powers card must be returned to the CSAS Manager immediately.

Police forces will wish to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of their accreditation schemes. Your organisation will be expected to take part in the process of evaluation as a condition of accreditation. You may be asked to devise and operate that process yourself, focusing on specific areas indicated by the Chief Officer. The Police recognise that they should not place an undue burden on their partners and, so far as possible, will seek to use information that is already available for the purposes of evaluation.

CASE STUDY: VISION SECURITY GROUP AT THE MALL, BRISTOL

Accredited security officers from the Vision Security Group (VSG) patrol The Mall shopping centre in Bristol. VSG is a large private security company providing security to shopping centres, retail



outlets and corporate premises across the UK and Ireland. The company employs about 5,000 staff and has been involved in CSAS since 2006, with accredited staff in Bristol, Basingstoke and Chelmsford. Accredited staff in The Mall, Bristol have been given a range of powers, mostly to tackle anti-social behaviour, though they are rarely used.

VSG's experience of CSAS has been very positive. Avon & Somerset Constabulary, and all those forces that VSG have been in contact with over CSAS, have supported them in the scheme. The local Safer Neighbourhood Team in Broadmead, Bristol has been "right behind" CSAS with a mini police station located on site in the shopping centre. This close working relationship has helped to foster an "excellent relationship" between local retailers and the police.

Accreditation has also helped to formalise the lines of communication between the police and The Mall shopping centre with increased information and intelligence sharing. Agreed protocols also permit accredited staff to request PNC checks on individuals and vehicles (in The Mall car park); the latter being particularly useful in heightened security alerts. There have also been noticeable benefits for those VSG staff accredited under CSAS. Accredited staff feel more confident and professional whilst enjoying increased respect and credibility with the police.

APPLYING FOR ACCREDITATION

HOW TO APPLY

First check that your local police force operates a CSAS scheme. Participating forces will have CSAS information on their website.

There are different procedures for applying for accreditation for public sector and private sector employers. A public sector employer should apply to the Chief Officer of its local force. Check the force website for details. A private sector company should apply to ACPO CPI Ltd., a company owned by the Association of Chief Police Officers. ACPO CPI will then inform Chief Constables of companies in their areas that it recommends for approval. An application pack is available here:

<http://www.securedbydesign.com/keylinks/initiatives.aspx>

THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET

The Police Reform Act 2002 sets out a number of requirements on force chief officers before they can make an accreditation. They must be satisfied of the following:

- The employing organisation must be fit and proper to supervise the work of an accredited person.
- The employing organisation must have a satisfactory complaints procedure.
- The employee is suitable to exercise the powers that are to be conferred upon him.
- The employee is capable of effectively carrying out the functions for the purpose of which these powers are being conferred upon him.
- The employee has received adequate training for the exercise of these powers.

It is for each force to decide the standards to which it wishes to apply these requirements. The standards of capability and training required will vary depending on the role being carried out by the accredited person and the powers that are being included in their accreditation. However, Association of Chief Police Officers guidance is that employees seeking accreditation should have a Community Safety Accredited Persons Certificate and a minimum of four hours' basic first aid training.

The Security Industry Authority's (SIA) Approved Contractor Scheme mirrors this process to a large extent. Membership of that scheme may shorten the vetting process for accreditation. Prior learning in order to obtain an SIA license, an NVQ for Community Wardens or another qualification relevant to community safety, may all be credited against the training requirement.

Contact your local police force for more details of the standards and vetting procedures that it applies.

EMPLOYEES WHO FAIL THE VETTING

This could happen. Not all of the employees an organisation puts forward may meet the standards required. There is no general solution to this problem and responses will differ depending on the numbers of employees affected, the deployment requirements of the employers and the views of the force. Potential solutions include only accrediting supervisors, the redeployment of those who do not meet the standards or choosing to postpone accreditation altogether. Whatever the favoured option it will clearly require sensitive management by the employers and the police force.

UNIFORM

Under Section 42(2) of the Police Reform Act, accredited persons may only exercise the powers conferred on them in a uniform that has been approved by the force chief officer and wearing a badge as specified by the Secretary of State. Association of Chief Police Officers guidance is that uniforms should be distinct from those worn by police officers or police community support officers.

THE COST OF ACCREDITATION

Costs incurred by the police in the accreditation process can be passed on to the organisation concerned. These can include the costs of periodic re-assessment. The cost of accreditation schemes varies from force to force

EMPLOYEES WORKING IN MORE THAN ONE POLICE FORCE AREA

The Association of Chief Police Officers has issued guidance that addresses this issue. It recommends that where a large national organisation seeks accreditation for its staff it should apply first of all to the police force area covering the head office of the organisation. Before accreditation is granted, the Chief Officer of that force should then consult with their counterparts in all other areas where it is proposed that accredited persons will operate. Clearly, this process takes longer than accreditation in a single force area.

ANNEX A

POWERS THAT MAY BE GRANTED TO AN ACCREDITED PERSON

Every accredited person will carry an identification card. This card sets out the powers an individual is trained and authorised to use. A person commits an offence if they fail to comply with any authorised request from an accredited person or fails to provide their name and address when required.

It is an offence to:

- assault, resist or wilfully obstruct an accredited person in the execution of their duty or any person assisting them;
- impersonate an accredited person with intent to deceive or make any statement or do any act calculated to falsely suggest that a person is accredited.

Local needs and problems vary from area to area, organisations may apply for some or all of the powers available. It is possible for organisations to seek and receive the benefits of accreditation for their employees without requesting any additional powers. The decision to grant powers is at the sole discretion of the Chief Constable.

Accredited persons can only exercise their powers in the area of the Force that has accredited them (this is with the exception of the power to direct traffic for the purposes of escorting an abnormal load). Accredited persons must be clearly wearing the accreditation badge and must also be able to present, on request, a document detailing their accreditation. Accreditation will describe the accredited persons' uniform.

Accredited persons do not have any special powers of arrest or detention. They do have the general citizen's power of arrest but there is no expectation that they shall exercise this power as part of the scheme.

It is also an offence for an accredited person to make any statement or do any act calculated to suggest that they have powers which exceed the powers they actually hold.

Table 1 lists the powers that chief officers may confer on accredited persons.

Table 2 lists the offences for which accredited persons may be accredited with a power to issue a penalty notice for disorder under Chapter 1 Part 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001. If a chief officer of police accredits an accredited person with powers under paragraph 1 of Schedule 5 of the Police Reform Act 2002 he or she may choose whether to give the accredited person the power to issue penalty notices for all of the available fixed penalty offences or a selection of them.

This list of powers provides only a broad outline of the available powers. For further detail please look at the relevant legislation and accompanying explanatory notes.

TABLE 1

Power	Relevant legislation
Power to issue penalty notices for disorder: Power of a constable to give a penalty notice under Chapter 1 of Part 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (fixed penalty notices in respect of offences of disorder) except in respect of an offence under section 12 of the Licensing Act 1872, section 91 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 section 1 of the Theft Act 1968, section 1(1) of the Criminal Damage Act 1971 and section 87 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (See below for a list of penalty notices for disorder that accredited persons can issue)	Paragraph 1(2)(aa) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 89(1) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for truancy: Power of a constable to give a penalty notice under section 444A of the Education Act 1996 (penalty notice in respect of failure to secure regular attendance at school of registered pupil)	Paragraph 1(2)(ab) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 23(6) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to issue fixed penalty notice in respect of an excluded pupil in a public place: the power of a constable to give a penalty notice under section 105 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (penalty notice in respect of presence of excluded pupil in public place)	Paragraph 1(2)(ac) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 107(4) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006).
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for cycling on a footpath: Power of a constable in uniform to give a person a fixed penalty notice under section 54 of the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988 (fixed penalty notices) in respect of an offence under section 72 of the Highway Act 1835 (riding on a footway) committed by cycling.	Paragraph 1(2)(a) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling: Power of an authorised officer of a local authority to give a notice under section 4 of the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 (fixed penalty notices in respect of dog fouling) This power (and the 1996 Act) has now been repealed in relation to England and Wales by section 107 and Schedule 5 Part 5 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. However the power continues to have effect in respect of any land which remains designated land under the 1996 Act.	Paragraph 1(2)(b) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002.

Power to issue fixed penalty notices for graffiti and fly-posting: Power of an authorised officer of a local authority to give a notice under section 43(1) of the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 (penalty notices in respect of graffiti or fly-posting)	Paragraph 1(2)(ba) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 46(2)(b) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for littering: Power of an authorised officer of a litter authority to give a notice under section 88 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (fixed penalty notices in respect of litter)	Paragraph 1(2)(c) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to issue fixed penalty notices in respect of offences under dog control orders: power of an authorised officer of a primary or secondary authority, within the meaning of section 59 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, to give a notice under that section (fixed penalty notices in respect of offences under dog control orders.)	Paragraph 1(2)(d) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 62(3) of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005)
Power to issue fixed penalty notices in relation to offences against certain byelaws: power of an authorised officer of an authority to give a notice under section 237A of the Local Government Act 1972 where the accredited person has reason to believe an individual has committed an offence against a relevant byelaw. This power is not yet in force.	Paragraph 1A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 133 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007)
Power to require giving of name and address: Power to require the name and address of a person whom an accredited person has reason to believe has committed a relevant offence (Relevant offences are defined under paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 5 of the Police Reform Act 2002 as relevant fixed penalty offences in relation to which the accredited person is able to give a fixed penalty notice under paragraph 1 of Schedule 5 or an offence that appears to the accredited person to have caused injury, alarm or distress to another person or loss of or damage to another person's property. It also includes an offence under a relevant byelaw within the meaning of paragraph 1A, though this is not yet in force.) It is an offence to fail to comply with an accredited person's requirement.	Paragraph 2 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002

Power to deal with begging: The Serious Organised Crime and Police Act makes offences under sections 3 and 4 of the Vagrancy Act 1824 into relevant offences, giving accredited persons the power to request the name and address of someone who has committed such an offence	Paragraph 2(3)(aa) of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (see paragraph 18 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005).
Power to require name and address for anti-social behaviour: Power of a constable in uniform under section 50 of the Police Reform Act 2002 to require a person whom he has reason to believe to have been acting, or to be acting, in an anti-social manner to give his name and address.	Paragraph 3 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to require name and address for road traffic offences: power of a constable under sections 165(1)(c) and 169 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 to require the name and address where the accredited person has reasonable cause to believe certain offences under that Act have been committed.	Paragraph 3A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by paragraph 19 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005).
Power to require persons drinking in designated places to surrender alcohol: Power of a constable under section 12 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 to require a person whom an accredited person reasonably believes is, or has been, consuming alcohol in a designated public place or intends to do so, to not consume that alcohol and to surrender any alcohol or container for alcohol. Power to dispose of alcohol surrendered to him.	Paragraph 4 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to require persons aged under 18 to surrender alcohol: Power of a constable under section 1 of the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act 1997 to require a person who he reasonably suspects is aged under 18 or is or has been supplying alcohol to a person aged under 18 to surrender any alcohol in his possession and to give their name and address. Power to require such a person to surrender sealed containers of alcohol if the accredited person has reason to believe that the person is, has been or intends to consume alcohol. Power to dispose of alcohol surrendered to him.	Paragraph 5 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to seize tobacco from a person aged under 16 and to dispose of that tobacco in a manner directed by the employer of an accredited person.	Paragraph 6 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002

Power to remove abandoned vehicles under regulations made under section 99 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.	Paragraph 7 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002.
Power to stop vehicles for testing: Powers of a constable in uniform to stop vehicles for the purposes of testing under section 67 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.	Paragraph 8 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002.
Power to stop cycles: Powers of a constable in uniform to stop a cycle under section 163(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 when an accredited person has reason to believe that a person has committed the offence of riding on a footpath.	Paragraph 8A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by section 89(6) of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003)
Power to control traffic for purposes other than escorting a load of exceptional dimensions: The Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 enables accredited persons to be given powers to direct traffic (for purposes other than escorting loads of exceptional dimensions) based on the powers constables have under sections 35 and 37 of the Road Traffic Act 1988. It also gives accredited persons the power to direct traffic for the purposes of conducting a traffic survey. Accredited persons conferred with powers under this paragraph must also be given powers under paragraph 3A of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act.	Paragraph 8B of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by paragraph 20 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005).
Power to direct traffic for the purposes of escorting abnormal loads	Paragraph 9 of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002
Power to photograph persons away from a police station: The Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 enables accredited persons to be given the power to photograph a person who has been given a penalty notice away from the police station.	Paragraph 9ZA of Schedule 5 to the Police Reform Act 2002 (inserted by paragraph 21 of Schedule 8 to the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005).

TABLE 2

Offences for which Accredited Persons may issue penalty notices for disorder under Chapter 1 Part 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001	Relevant legislation
Wasting police time, Giving false report	s.5(2) Criminal Law Act 1967
Using public electronic communications to cause annoyance	s.127(2) Communications Act 2003
Knowingly giving a false alarm to a fire brigade	s.49 Fire and Rescue Services Act 1947
Behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress.	s.5 Public Order Act 1986
Throwing fireworks	s.80 Explosives Act 1875
Sells or attempts to sell alcohol to a person who is drunk	s.141 Licensing Act 2003
Supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to a person aged under 18	s.146(3) Licensing Act 2003
Sale of alcohol anywhere to a person under 18	s.146(1) Licensing Act 2003
Buys or attempts to buy alcohol on behalf of a person under 18	s.149(3) Licensing Act 2003
Buys or attempts to buy alcohol for consumption on relevant premises by a person under 18	s.149(4) Licensing Act 2003
Delivery of alcohol to person under 18 or allowing such delivery	s.151 Licensing Act 2003
Breach of fireworks curfew	Fireworks Regulations 2004 under s11 of the Fireworks Act 2003
Possession of a category 4 firework	Fireworks Regulations 2004 under s11 of the Fireworks Act 2003
Possession by a person under 18 of an adult firework.	Fireworks Regulations 2004 under s11 of the Fireworks Act 2003
Trespassing on a railway	s.55 British Transport Commission Act 1949
Throwing stones at a train	s.56 British Transport Commission Act 1949
Consume alcohol in a designated public place, contrary to requirement by constable not to do so.	s.12(4) Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001
Consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises	s.150(1) Licensing Act 2003
Allowing consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises	s.150(2) Licensing Act 2003
Buying or attempting to buy alcohol by a person under 18	s.149(1) Licensing Act 2003

FURTHER INFORMATION

Section 89(7) of the Anti-social Behaviour Act ensures that accredited persons are only able to issue those PNDs which are considered appropriate. It enables the Secretary of State to remove by order accredited persons' power to issue PNDs available under section 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001. This includes any future PNDs added to this section.

The Home Office CSAS webpage:

<http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/community-policing/citizen-focused-policing/community-safety-accredit-scheme/>

Association of Chief Police Officers guidance for private sector companies:

<http://www.securedbydesign.com/keylinks/initiatives.aspx>