

St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council

Report #01.5

Replacement laptop for SID data collection

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 To seek financial approval to purchase a replacement laptop for the monthly collection of data from its Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs).

2. Background

2.1 The council has installed seven SIDs at various locations within the parish in an attempt to reduce the number of vehicles exceeding the speed restriction. Each month the data recorded by these devices is downloaded and transmitted to Wiltshire Police where it is analysed, along with the data from over forty other parish councils, in order to dispatch their mobile traffic enforcement units to the locations where the greatest infringement is taking place.

2.2 Evidence from the seven devices over the past twelve months or so would indicate that conformity to the notified speed restriction is generally over eighty percent. Many residents have also reported that traffic speeds have seemingly reduced since the introduction of the devices.

2.3 Presently the council uses a ten year old lap top that is beginning to show signs of becoming unreliable. The battery can often discharge quickly or become unreliable when being charged. The equipment is also reasonably heavy to transport from site to site and a lighter model would be preferable and easier to use. Finally, a new laptop would benefit from improvements in screen technology.

2.4 The Project Working Party has investigated the replacement options currently available and have concluded that a suitable model, fitting the requirements of the task to be undertaken, could be purchased for a cost in the order of £570, excluding VAT.

3. Options

3.1 To continue using the existing laptop and accept its limitations
3.2 To agree to the replacement of the laptop for a cost in the order of £550, excluding VAT

4. Financial Implications

4.1 The purchase could be sourced from the council's CIL funds.

5. Recommendation

5.1 Option 3.2 is recommended

Cllr Roger Budgen
January 2026