



Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) Policy

Adopted: 2nd September 2025

1. Purpose

This policy sets out how Woodham Ferrers & Bicknacre Parish Council manages its **Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS)** – unit ref: **VM25224** – and its solar panel. The MVAS promotes road safety and supports speed reduction through visual deterrence and speed data collection.

2. Aims

- Encourage compliance with speed limits.
- Support community concerns about road safety and traffic speed.
- Use evidence-based data to identify problem areas and engage partners.
- Ensure the MVAS is managed safely, legally, and efficiently.

3. Approved VAS Locations

The MVAS and solar panel may only be installed on the five approved posts at:

- Location A – Opposite 4 Chapel Row, Woodham Ferrers
- Location B – 40m north of Elmroyd, Woodham Ferrers
- Location C – Outside Kismet, Woodham Ferrers
- Location D – Near The Bell PH carpark exit, Woodham Ferrers
- Location E – Outside 43 Priory Road, Bicknacre



4. Rotation Schedule

To provide consistent coverage, the MVAS will be **rotated every 4–6 weeks** between sites. Factors such as school terms, complaint volume, or known speeding areas may affect prioritisation.

Rotation and maintenance are carried out by the Parish Council's **self-employed handyman**, who:

- Holds appropriate public liability insurance
- Is experienced in MVAS handling and safe working procedures

A **log will be maintained** of movement dates and locations.

5. Installation and Maintenance

- All movement of the MVAS must be done by appropriately experienced individuals.
- The Parish Council will ensure the handyman complies with ECC's Chapter 8 traffic management expectations.
- ECC's Permit Team will be notified at least 1 week before any work:
 roadspacebooking@essexhighways.org

- Equipment must be checked regularly and kept in good condition.
-

6. Data Collection and Use

The MVAS can **collect anonymous speed data** from passing vehicles.

- Data will be downloaded periodically and reviewed by the Clerk or nominated councillor.
 - This information may inform future VAS placements, traffic management, or police engagement.
 - The Parish Council may share summary data with Essex Highways, Essex Police, or the public if requested.
-

7. Health, Safety and Liability

- Sign placement must meet ECC's required distances and visibility rules.
 - The Parish Council remains legally responsible for the MVAS, even if operational tasks are delegated.
 - Public liability insurance of at least **£10 million** will be maintained.
-

8. Costs

All MVAS-related costs (purchase, installation, data handling, relocation, repair, or removal) are the Parish Council's responsibility. ECC provides **no funding**.

9. Removal of Equipment

If ECC requires removal of the MVAS:

- The Parish Council will remove and make good any damage at its own expense.
 - ECC may remove it themselves and charge the Council if necessary.
-

10. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if:

- ECC permission changes
- A second MVAS is acquired
- Any safety or operational concerns arise