Seeking Community Members to Participate in a Commercial Vehicle Watch Pilot Project

Gloucestershire Constabulary is currently delivering a project called Commercial Vehicle Watch which will run until the end of December 2023. Coordination of this is being conducted through the Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership but the Project is led by Superintendent Paul Keasey who is the Director of Specialist Operations within Gloucestershire Constabulary.

This activity is part of the Department for Transport's national Roads Policing Review which is all about making road use safer, more efficient and more secure.

The key objective of the Commercial Vehicle Watch project is to explore the benefits of involving communities (i.e. yourselves) in providing information to help the agencies who are members of the Road Safety Partnership better understand your concerns around offending or inconsiderate commercial vehicle use.

By commercial vehicles, we mean lorries and vans clearly being used for commercial activities such as making deliveries or providing services (e.g. tradespersons). For the purpose of this project, this is *not* about privately owned vehicles.

By offending or inconsiderate commercial vehicle use, we mean things such as:

- Speeding.

- Inconsiderate parking (e.g. blocking pavements or road access).

- Vehicles contravening height, width, or weight restrictions.

- 'Fly tipping'.

- Dangerous, careless or inconsiderate driving.

As part of this project , early engagement with people such as yourselves indicates that there are concerns around these types of incident within your community. This is why your area has been selected for the pilot phase of the project.

We have built an App to create a straightforward and easy way to report such incidents via your mobile phone. Details of how to obtain the App and how it works are provided later in this document, but this is a free facility that will be available to anyone who lives in Gloucestershire and who wants to be part of this pilot. All you need to do to participate in the pilot is have a mobile phone (Apple or Android), understand what the pilot is seeking to achieve and be willing to participate.

The pilot (recording of information regarding these issues) will run from now until the end of October 2023 and is designed specifically to gauge how useful you find the App and to help provide a richer
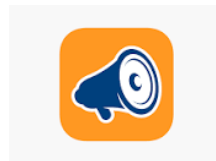
understanding to members of the Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership about the issues of greatest community concern.

The information provided by community trial participants will be regularly reviewed and discussed by the Project Team. It will greatly assist in understanding where to provide resources to tackle the problems raised and whether there is a community desire for the App to be expanded to cater for other road related issues that you would like to raise.
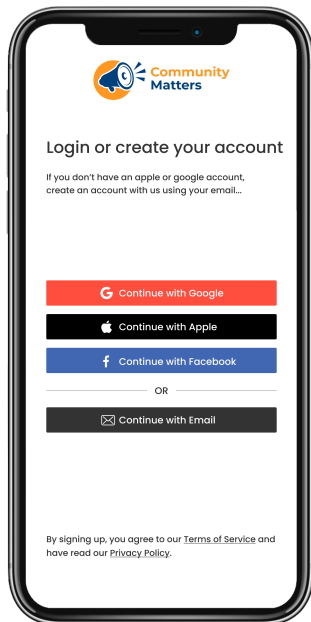
As such, it is important to state that for the purpose of the pilot, we are not seeking to *resolve* the issues that you raise. This is all about developing a better understanding of the scale of community concern and the usefulness of the App as an effective means to provide information into the agencies that are members of the Road Safety Partnership. This will prove extremely helpful in ensuring that the right investments are made to resource the areas of road safety that are of greatest demand from Gloucestershire community residents.

What follows is how the App can be obtained and how it should be used for the purpose of the pilot. It is available to download onto either an Apple or Android mobile phone device and can be obtained for free through the relevant App store. Just search for the Community Matters App with the following logo:
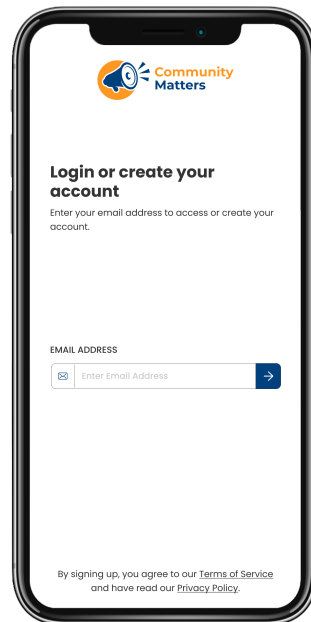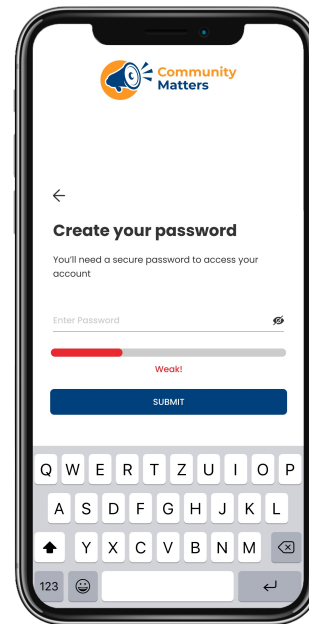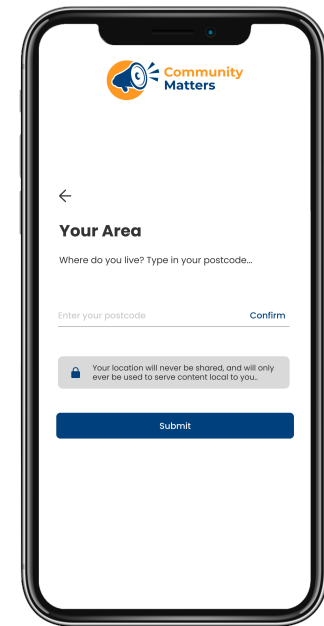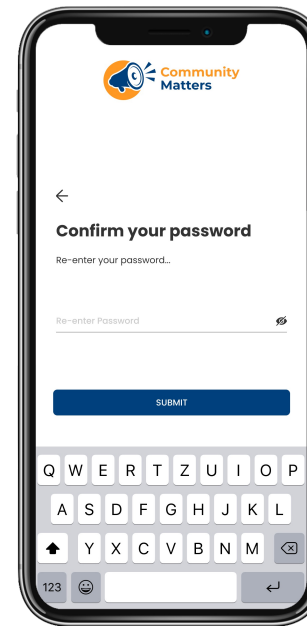
Registration Process

Step 1: First time users will need to create an account. Select from the following options on display to create your account.

If you have chosen to continue with Google, Apple or Facebook, you will not go need to enter an email address or password and will be directed straight to 'Your Area'.
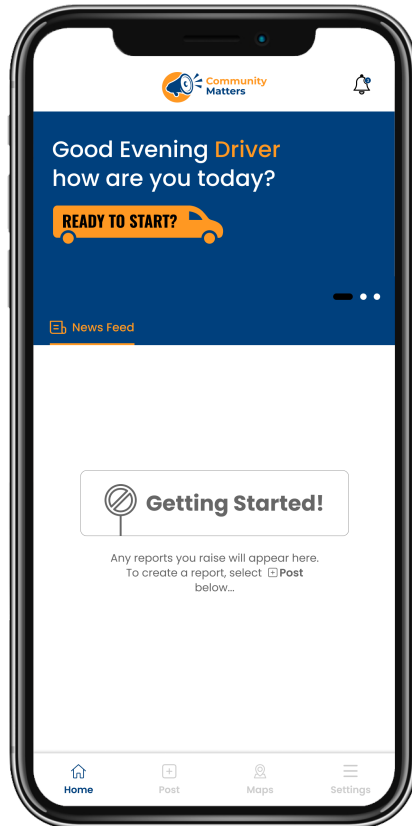
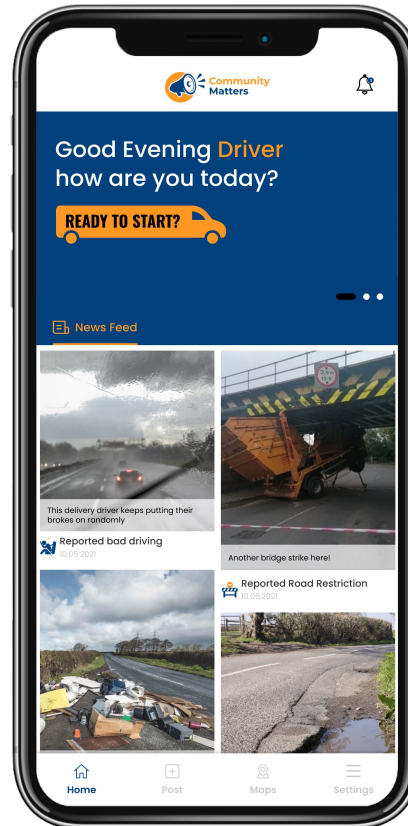Create and Confirm your password for the application.

Finally, enter your home postcode.

Homepage

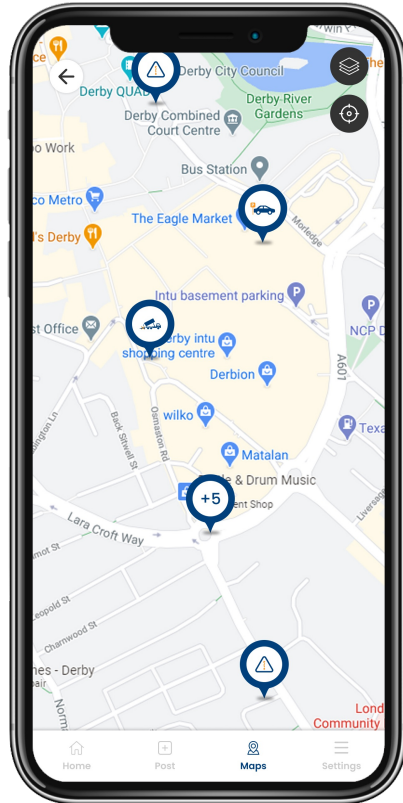Your homepage will start empty. Only you can see your submissions on your homepage.

Once you submit a commercial vehicle use issue, your submission will show here.
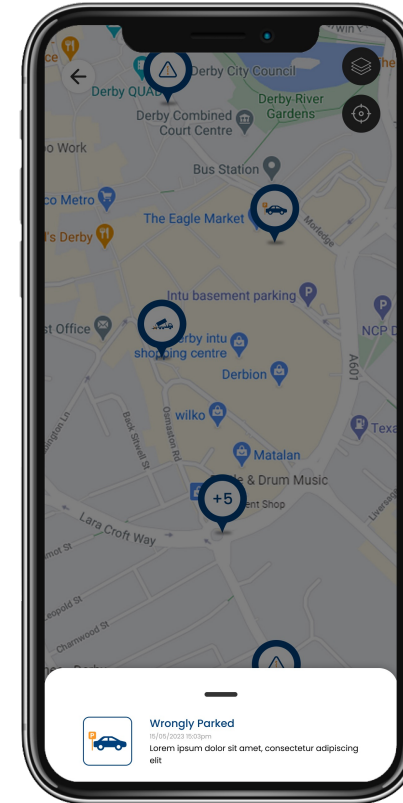

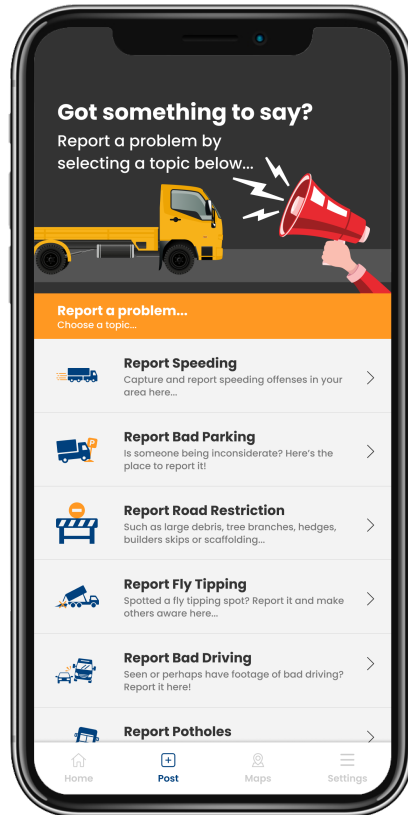You can click on your submission to view in detail.

Mapping

The submissions are geo-stamped so you will be able to see submissions of commercial vehicle use issue sites.
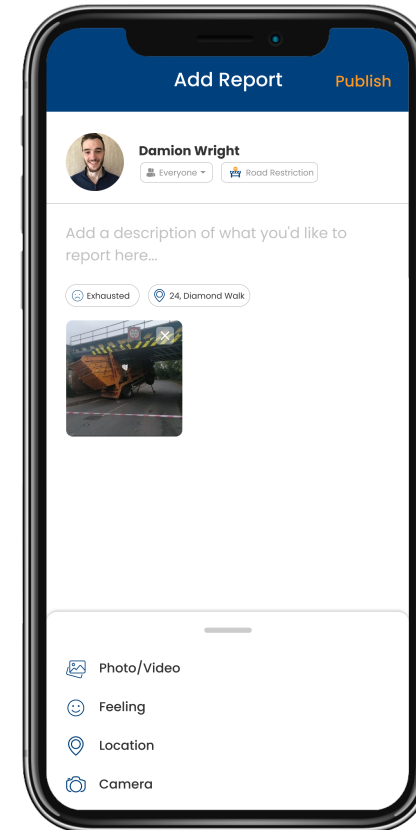

Once you click on the submission, you can see what type of commercial vehicle use issue occurred but no further detail. This is for data protection purposes for this pilot trial.
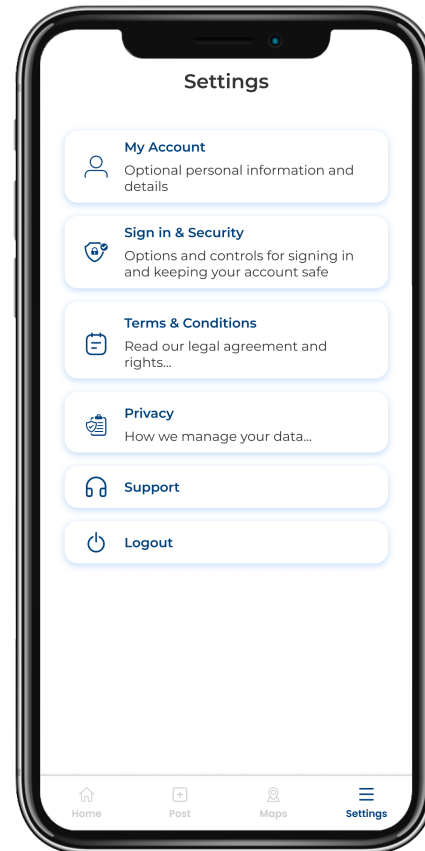
Posting

To post a commercial vehicle use issue, click which issue type your submission refers to.

When completing the submission, please add a description of what you would like to report, then include a picture and location. Please note you can upload or take an in-app picture when submitting the commercial vehicle use issue.

Settings

Once you have created your account, you can change the settings as per your preferences, via the settings page.