

Eastern Police Area

Our next two meetings in the Eastern Police Area are:-

Tuesday 12 May 2009, 7pm
Town Hall, Sandbach

Monday 18 May 2009, 7pm
Royal British Legion, Grove Avenue,
Wilmslow

Please come along to either or both.

1. Local crime information

How to access local crime information on the internet – a briefing is enclosed.

2. Customer Service Desks

How the Constabulary are keeping victims of crime and witnesses updated - a briefing is enclosed.

3. HQ Crime and Operations Departments - how they support local policing

A presentation on the work of the Departments in supporting neighbourhood policing and tackling serious and organised crime - a guide to Force Operations is enclosed.

4. Policing in the Eastern Area

Chief Superintendent Paul McHugh will discuss policing in the area. Details of crime levels and notable incidents are attached for your information.

5. Question Time

Your opportunity to question the Authority and senior Police Officers.

Future Eastern Police Area meetings *All begin at 7.00pm:-*

Thursday 3 September 2009 at the Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe

Monday 14 September 2009 at the Town Hall, High Street, Congleton

Monday 11 January 2010 at the Methodist Church Hall, Off King Edward St, Macclesfield

Thursday 21 January 2010 at the Civic Hall, Market Street, Nantwich

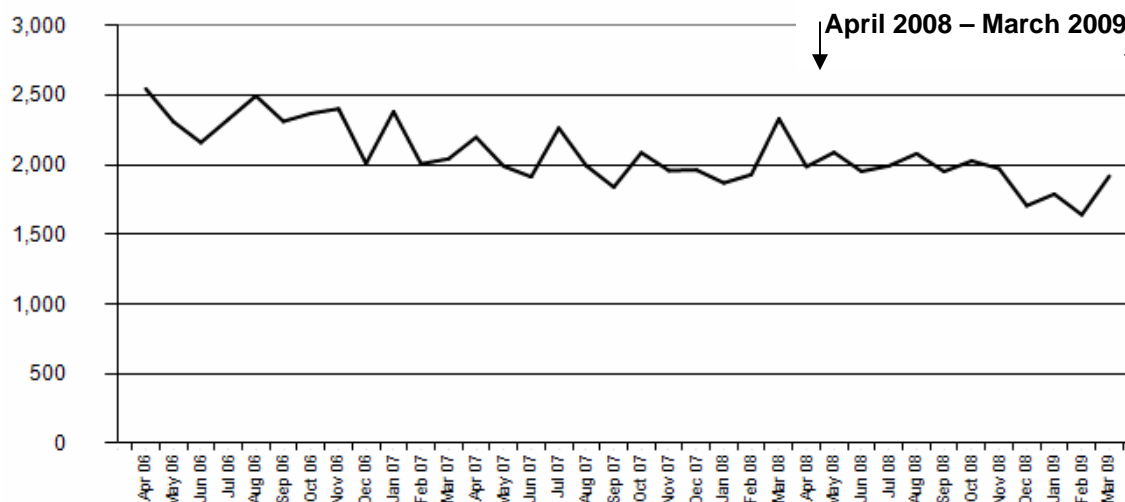
EASTERN 'HAVE YOUR SAY' MEETING
12 & 18 MAY 2009

PERFORMANCE DATA: APRIL 2008 – MARCH 2009

Crime

Crime is down in the Eastern Area by 5% for the year April 2008 – March 2009, when compared to the comparable period the previous year.

Total crime in Eastern Area



Performance in relation to a number of key crime categories over the year is as follows:-

Domestic Burglary	Down 8%	98 less crimes
Violent Crime	Down 5%	208 less crimes
Vehicle Crime	Down 18%	514 less crimes
Criminal Damage	Down 10%	557 less crimes

In Cheshire as a whole, crime is down by 5%, or 4,179 fewer crimes.

Detections

The detection rate for all crime for the same period is up from 24.6% last year to **28.3%** this year. If the positive outcomes from restorative justice resolutions are included, this increases to **29.6%**. The performance in relation to the other key areas is as follows:-

	<i>This year</i>	<i>Last year</i>
Domestic Burglary	24.1%	24.0%
Violent Crime	46.9%	45.4%
Vehicle Crime	13.4%	12.2%
Criminal Damage	15.6%	12.6%

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RECENT ACTIVITY AND INCIDENTS OF NOTE

Passive drug dogs, which can identify people carrying drugs were used on recent ArcAngel operations in towns across Eastern Area. This action resulted in the arrest of several drug dealers and the issue of Cannabis Street Warnings to many other people. ArcAngel is primarily a campaign dealing with alcohol-related crime and disorder but this extension of its targets sends a clear message to people involved with drugs and it is effective. Doormen and bar staff tell us they are seeing fewer drug dealers in bars and pubs.

Two men appeared in court charged with the murder of Rodney Marsh, who was found dead in woodland at Alderley Edge on 26 February. They were remanded in custody until 29 June.

Two men charged with "bogus caller" burglaries in Nantwich and Congleton have been remanded in custody to appear at Chester Crown Court. The two are also accused of two similar offences in North Staffordshire and one of them is charged with a burglary at Newark in Nottinghamshire.

A 61 year old man from Congleton was sent to prison for three years after being found guilty of six fraud charges in connection with the sale of a fake Lowry painting. A jury at Chester Crown Court heard that he bought the painting for £7,500 and sold it for £330,000. A "Proceeds of Crime" investigation into the man's affairs is now being considered.

A number of cannabis farms have been discovered and closed down, the largest was in a former restaurant in Crewe where plants with a street value of £150,000 were seized. One man was arrested. Landlords of commercial or domestic property are being contacted to ensure they know who their tenants are and what they are using the building for. Cannabis farming is part of organised crime with gangs damaging properties to achieve the maximum profit.

Police officers received "really positive feedback" from the first 'Streetsafe' operation on a licensed gypsy and traveller caravan site. Representatives from partner agencies joined the officers as they toured the Three Oaks Caravan Park in Middlewich, asking questions about community involvement, anti-social behaviour, recycling, adult education, policing and road safety. More 'Streetsafe' operations are being carried out.

Seven men were charged following an extensive Police investigation into thefts of valuable agricultural equipment from farms in Cheshire, many of them in the Knutsford area. One is accused of conspiracy to steal vehicles, plant and machinery worth £2.5million; five face charges of conspiracy to steal equipment worth more than £300,000 and another man is charged with theft. The men were arrested after a team of police officers worked closely with farmers to investigate a series of thefts which were having an impact on the livelihood of the farming community.

Signs going up in country areas around Knutsford give a clear keep out message to criminals. The signs state that the area is covered by the Rural Watch scheme. The project currently has 160 farmers, dairy companies, stables and people living in remote rural houses on its database. They receive emails about possible criminal activity and appeals for information. The new signs have been provided by the construction company Costain, who are working on the Stublach Gas Storage project for Storengy UK. A similar project is being set up in the Sandbach area.

Police Officers in Eastern Area were the first in Cheshire to use new powers to enter the homes of registered sex offenders. They used forced entry methods to carry out three searches after the offenders refused to allow officers in. Sex offenders are already closely managed by us and partner agencies, but this “tougher” approach to searching homes is an added safeguard. Any evidence to indicate re-offending prompts a robust police investigation. Offenders quickly find themselves back in the criminal justice system.

A Portuguese lorry driver involved in a crash on the M6 which wiped out a family was found guilty of six charges of causing death by dangerous driving and sent to prison for three years. The Police have made it clear that the cause of this incident was gross inattention by one driver, not about foreign lorry drivers using British roads.