

Eastern Police Area

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

**Thursday 3 September 2009,
7pm**
Municipal Buildings,
Earle Street, Crewe, CW1 2BJ

**Monday 14 September 2009,
7pm**
Town Hall, High Street,
Congleton, CW12 1BN

Please come along to either meeting or both.

1. Criminal Justice

A Magistrate will discuss local sentencing issues followed by a Senior Officer from the Cheshire Probation Area, who will explain how community sentences and community payback schemes operate.

2. Policing in the Eastern Area

Chief Superintendent Paul McHugh will discuss policing in the area. Details of crime levels and notable incidents are attached at Appendix 1 for your information.

3. Question Time

Your opportunity to question the Authority and senior Police Officers. Attached at Appendix 2 is a summary of issues raised at the last round of Have Your Say meetings held throughout the Authority area.

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

*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 AREA 'HAVE YOUR SAY' MEETING
3 & 14 SEPTEMBER 2009

RECENT ACTIVITY AND INCIDENTS OF NOTE

The Cheshire Police Strikeout campaign, targeting organised crime which affects people's everyday lives, is continuing to achieve successes against drug dealing in Cheshire Police Eastern Area. In many cases this is due to an increasing amount of information coming from members of the public about dealing and other drug activity in their local neighbourhoods. Recent successes included:

- Three men appeared in court following the recovery of cocaine with a street value of £800,000 from a car near Knutsford. £50,000 in cash was seized from the home of one of the men.
- Four years in prison for a dealer arrested after surveillance operations at Astbury and Congleton.
- A young woman from Knutsford sentenced to 32 months in prison for possessing cocaine with intent to supply.
- A number of people arrested and quantities of drugs seized during a month-long operation to disrupt dealing on the Colshaw Farm estate at Wilmslow.
- Cannabis worth £3,000 recovered when officers executed search warrants at three houses at Alderley Edge. A man and a boy were arrested.
- A man from Crewe was sent to prison for 12 months for possessing cannabis with intent to supply. His mother received a suspended prison sentence, with referral to a drug intervention programme and 200 hours of unpaid work, for a similar offence.
- Separate stop checks on two cars in Crewe yielded large quantities of cocaine and cannabis bush.
- Dogs which can identify people who have been in contact with drugs are now frequently taken out on ArcAngel patrols in town centres across the area.
- Three more cannabis farms located and closed down in Crewe. Landlords have been warned once more to make sure they know who is renting their property and what it is being used for.

Eight men have been arrested and will be sentenced in September as part of 'Operation Strikeout' against thefts of valuable farm machinery across a wide area of Cheshire. They have admitted charges including theft and handling stolen property. The investigation was carried out by a team of officers from Eastern and Western Areas of Cheshire Police.

The "Rural Watch" scheme in the Knutsford area played a significant part during the operation to tackle the farm machinery thefts. A similar scheme has now been introduced in the Congleton NPT area.

Officers from Nantwich Neighbourhood Policing Unit are involved in patrols with West Mercia Police, North Wales Police and officers from Cheshire Police Western Rural Unit to disrupt and detect cross border crime. In the past few months several people have been arrested and charged with offences including theft, possession of drugs and driving offences. The operations also gather a large amount of information on the movement of active criminals.

A 25 years old care home worker was sent to prison for a minimum of 27 years after being found guilty of murdering an elderly woman at a care home in Congleton.

Officers from Crewe Neighbourhood Policing Team took part in an operation which seized 47,000 illegal cigarettes, nearly 24 kilos of counterfeit tobacco and 50 litres of illegal vodka. Most of the haul was recovered from houses on the Middlewich Street estate in Crewe.

Five men arrested after a burglary in Crewe when the householder was threatened with a gun have pleaded guilty to charges of aggravated burglary. They will be sentenced in September.

A man arrested after an investigation into burglaries in the Knutsford area when a drill was used on window frames was sentenced to six years in prison. The man admitted the series of burglaries in and around Knutsford, two at Disley and two more in Derbyshire.

Restorative Justice solutions are being used to settle an increasing number of minor crimes. Recent examples involved two students who were responsible for graffiti in Poynton, young men who vandalised scarecrows at Goostrey and a man who assaulted a countryside park ranger at Brereton Heath.

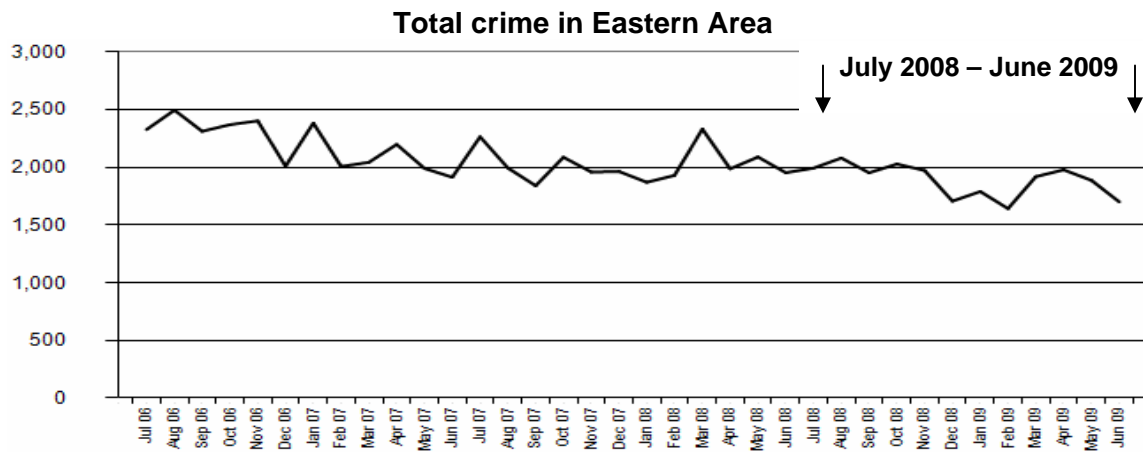
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PERFORMANCE DATA: JULY 2008- JUNE 2009

The Information below reflects that which respondents to our recent survey on performance information stated they wished to see reported. It covers three key areas of Crimes, detections and public confidence and satisfaction.

Crime

For the period July 2008-June 2009 compared to the same period the previous year, crime in the Eastern Area is down by 7% (1,619 fewer crimes). In Cheshire as a whole, crime is down by 6% (4,595 fewer crimes).



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

Domestic Burglary	Up 5%	58 more crimes
Violent Crime	Down 2%	75 less crimes
Vehicle Crime	Down 14%	405 less crimes
Criminal Damage	Down 11%	615 less crimes

Detections

The detection rate, in the Eastern Area, for the period July 2008 -June 2009 is 27.4%. This compares to a rate of 26.0% for the same period 2007 -2008.

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

	<i>This year</i>	<i>Last year</i>
Domestic Burglary	23.0%	26.1%
Violent Crime	44.6%	47.0%
Vehicle Crime	13.1%	12.9%
Criminal Damage	14.5%	12.5%

Public Confidence and Satisfaction

In British Crime Survey interviews for the year ending March 2009, the percentage of the Cheshire public who stated they had local confidence in their local police was **48.9%**. The percentage of the public who were satisfied with the whole experience of the service received from the police for the period July 2008-June 2009 was 87.5% for the force and **89.3%** for the Eastern Area. This compares to a national target of **85%** for the force.