

Have **your** say

CHESHIRE Police Authority listens to what people want from their police service. One of the ways that we do this is at meetings which we hold in your area.

Please feel free to attend any meeting in your area so that we can consult you on important policing issues, determine policing priorities and listen to your views and suggestions for improvement.

Future Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.00pm at the Gateway Centre, Sankey Street, Warrington on:-

• **Tuesday 6 January 2009**

How to get in touch Community Action Team

YOUR local Community Action Team (CAT) is available to solve problems in your neighbourhood. Leave a message on one of the following numbers and they will return your call within two days or email them at the address provided below:-

Warrington Central 0845 458 6379

warrington.central.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Town Centre, Bewsey, Fairfield, Howley and Whitecross.

Warrington East 0845 458 6390

warrington.east.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Culcheth, Glazebury, Croft, Birchwood, Poulton North/South, Rixton and Woolston.

Warrington South 0845 458 6372

warrington.south.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Appleton, Grappenhall, Hatton, Latchford, Lymm, Stretton, Stockton Heath, Thelwall, Walton and Westy.

Warrington West 0845 458 6385

warrington.west.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Burtonwood and Winwick, Westbrook, Whittle Hall, Great Sankey North, Great Sankey South, Penketh.



Cheshire Police Authority
www.cheshirepa.police.uk

Mission
To work in partnership with Cheshire Constabulary and others to create safer communities; and increase confidence and satisfaction in policing

Vision
To ensure an efficient and effective police service, that is built on neighbourhood policing and tackles all levels of criminality, and makes the citizens of Cheshire safe and feel safer

Aims

- To assist in achieving a consistently high performing force
- To ensure improvements in performance and scrutiny, underpinned by robust governance structures and appropriate Member support
- To provide better and more effective engagement with stakeholders
- To improve partnership working (both with the Constabulary and externally)
- To be a community leader in policing and community safety



Cheshire Police Authority
www.cheshirepa.police.uk

Non-emergency calls 0845 458 0000

Only use 999 if...

- There is danger to life
- Violence is used or threatened
- A serious crime is in progress or likely to occur
- A suspect is nearby
- There is a Road Traffic Collision involving personal injury or danger to others
- A vulnerable person needs urgent assistance



Cheshire CRIMESTOPPERS
0800 555 111
Call anonymously with information about crime



Cheshire Police Authority

Have **your** say

Warrington

October 2008



Brian Maher chairing the 'Have Your Say' meeting

THIS newsletter outlines the discussion at the meeting on 21 October 2008 in the Gateway Centre, Warrington attended by 7 members of the public and local community representatives.

The Authority's Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood together with the Acting Deputy Chief Constable, David Baines with Superintendent Craig Guildford and Inspector Andy Ross were present to answer questions.

Priorities for Policing

DAMON Taylor, the Authority's Deputy Chief Executive gave a presentation on the process for setting the Constabulary's objectives for 2009/10 and explained that one of the key roles of the Police Authority was to consult widely with the public on their priorities for policing. The Authority would then balance what the public told us with the targets set by the Government and our own policing intelligence to set the objectives for the Chief Constable.

Last year, the Authority had consulted with more than 3,000 people on policing priorities, who had identified that their key concerns for policing were:- responding to emergency calls; detecting crime and arresting offenders; tackling domestic abuse and child abuse; tackling organised crime and terrorism; and targeting drug dealers.

Outlining the Constabulary's current performance, Mr Taylor explained that of the 3,000 emergency calls per week, 93% were answered within 10 seconds. In addition, the force handled 8,000 non-emergency calls a week, and over the last year had made 27,906 arrests, 5,000 more than the previous year. All this had been achieved against a backdrop of a 10% reduction in crime, a 14% fall in criminal damage and an increase in the satisfaction level in policing to 83%.

Mr Taylor explained that following extensive consultation last year, the Authority, with support from the public, raised the policing element of the council tax precept by 17%, which had enabled the

Authority to make significant investments to tackle high tech crime; the monitoring of sex offenders; the introduction of customer service desks which were helping keep the public updated on progress with the incidents reported by them; and in serious and organised crime. The Government has now told the Authority, however, that for the next two years it will only be able to raise the precept by 3% (just under 8p per week) and therefore finances in the coming year will be difficult.

Those in attendance were urged to complete a questionnaire on policing priorities. Questionnaires had been posted to those people on the mailing list for 'Have Your Say' meetings, and further copies were available at the meeting. Touch screen surveys were also available at a number of post offices and the questionnaires could be completed on the Authority's website:- www.cheshirepa.police.uk. The closing date for receipt of the questionnaires was 14 November and the outcome of the process would be reported to the next meeting.

Volunteering opportunities with the police

SPECIAL Chief Inspector Nigel Balding spoke about his role and responsibilities as being one of the 30 Special Constabulary officers in Warrington.

He advised that following a structured 18 month training course, special constables had the same power as regular officers, and were an integral part of neighbourhood policing, providing a valuable resource in policing major events without the need for regular officers to be abstracted from their usual duties. He outlined a number of operations specifically undertaken by the Special Constabulary.

The Special Chief Inspector emphasised that community volunteering was not limited to the Special Constabulary but included roles such as providing administrative and IT support, and participating in the 'Community Speedwatch' initiative.

Anyone interested in volunteering in the police services should contact Tina Shelton, Volunteers Manager on 01244 614026.



Could you Volunteer?

They have!



If you think you have got what it takes, contact:
Cheshire Constabulary Volunteers Co-ordinator

01244 61 5900

www.cheshire.police.uk



Question Time

- Q.** How were the bans enforced?
- A.** The Superintendent reported that officers were able to 'ban' an individual from the town centre for a short period of time. Their details were recorded and circulated for the police to monitor. Early indications revealed that 80% did not come to the police's attention again. It was a means of moving people out of the town centre who may be causing a nuisance, before their behaviour deteriorated.
- Q.** What new initiatives were the police introducing to target crime?
- A.** The Superintendent advised that the Area had just purchased a mobile police station which was to be used in the town centre and outlying suburbs, which would speed up the processing of offenders and enable officers to be released to frontline duties quicker. He also detailed the new mobile data terminals which were being rolled out across the Targeted Patrol Team in Warrington. These should increase the ability to carry out stop checks, submit and access intelligence and update incidents from the scene.
- Q.** Do the Police visit pubs to tackle underage drinking?
- A.** Superintendent Guildford confirmed that the Police did have a good relationship with licensees and did visit licensed premises on a regular basis with partner agencies including Trading Standards and the Fire Service, to ensure licensees conformed to their licence conditions. Various initiatives were also in place such as 'Challenge 21' to tackle the sale of alcohol to under 18's.
- Q.** How did 'tagging' work?
- A.** The Superintendent advised that a tag would be imposed by the Court who deemed it necessary based on the seriousness of the offence. The tag is used to restrict an individual's movements within an area or a curfew. The tag is fitted by a specialised contractor (Group 4 or GSL) who monitors the individual's movements via the tag.
- Q.** Concern about the lack of a police officers attendance at the CAMs in Penketh.
- A.** The Superintendent agreed to speak to the local Inspector regarding attendance at future meetings.

- Q.** What steps were being taken to reduce paperwork?
- A.** Superintendent Guildford reported that the Authority had invested heavily in the introduction of handheld computers, which enabled officers to be sent information about incidents whilst in their vehicles or on patrol. The Acting Deputy Chief Constable reported that the trial of Restorative Justice (RJ), aimed to reduce the criminalisation of youngsters by bringing victims and offenders of low level crime together to understand the consequences of their actions. NPU Inspectors used their discretion as to where to use RJ.

Appreciation was expressed by a representative of the Warrington Partnership about the positive relationship with the police and the increased confidence about the policing of Warrington town centre.

- Q.** What work was undertaken with young people?
- A.** Superintendent Guildford advised that officers worked closely with the Youth Offending Team to prevent youngsters turning to crime. School Liaison Officers visited schools to raise awareness about personal safety and alcohol and drug misuse.
- Q.** An explanation was requested about the issuing of a Section 27 ban and the alleged delay of medical attention following an arrest.
- A.** The Superintendent was unable to comment on the issue until he had reviewed the details, however, he would speak to the person after the meeting. *[Post meeting note: The individual was spoken to and referred to Inspector Spedding who had now met with him to resolve the matter.]*
- Q.** How many motorists have been issued with a fixed penalty ticket for driving whilst on a mobile 'phone'?
- A.** Whilst the Superintendent did not have this information readily available, he advised that police officers regularly undertook Enforcement Days in which motorists were targeted for a variety of traffic offences. *[Post meeting note: During a recent enforcement day, 13 motorists were issued with a fixed penalty ticket for this offence.]*

Policing in Warrington



Superintendent Craig Guildford

SUPERINTENDENT Guildford discussed the Area's performance which had seen reductions of 1%, 10%, 17% and 13% in domestic burglary, violent crime, vehicle crime and criminal damage respectively compared with the same period last year. Details were also circulated of recent operations and local incidents of note.

The Superintendent discussed the policing of the Creamfields event which resulted in 24 arrests; the success of the Warrington Police Station open day which was attended by over 2,500 people; and the early intervention initiatives being introduced to create a safer environment. The creation of the Central NPU, enabled extra officers to be on duty a key times to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime. Officers were able to issue 'banning notices' to individuals from the town centre which had resulted in a significant reduction in the number of serious violence and disorder incidents within the town centre.