

# 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.

## Programme of Eastern Area meetings 2009/10 all commence at 7.00pm

- **Tuesday 12 May 2009**  
Town Hall, Sandbach
- **Monday 18 May 2009**  
Royal British Legion, Grove Avenue, Wilmslow
- **Thursday 3 September 2009**  
Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe
- **Monday 14 September 2009**  
Town Hall, High Street, Congleton
- **Monday 11 January 2010**  
Methodist Church Hall, off King Edward St, Macclesfield
- **Thursday 21 January 2010**  
Civic Hall, Nantwich

## 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:-

**Knutsford** 0845 458 6380

[knutsford.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:knutsford.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Covering Knutsford, Mobberley, Mere, Ashley, Plumley.

**Macclesfield** 0845 458 6371

[macclesfield.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:macclesfield.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Covering Macclesfield, Poynton, Prestbury, Bollington, Disley.

**Wilmslow** 0845 458 6374

[wilmslow.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:wilmslow.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Covering Wilmslow, Handforth, Alderley Edge, Styal.

Cheshire Police Authority  
[www.cheshirepa.police.uk](http://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](http://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

## Macclesfield

### January 2009



Have Your Say Chairman:  
Police Authority Member  
**Margaret Ollerenshaw**

THIS newsletter outlines the discussion at the meeting on 12 January 2009 in Macclesfield Methodist Church Hall, which was attended by 29 members of the public, press and local community representatives.

The Authority's Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood and the Area Commander Chief Superintendent Paul McHugh were present to answer questions. Inspector Gareth Woods who has responsibility for Macclesfield was also in attendance.

## New Chief Constable



**MARGARET Ollerenshaw** advised that **David Whatton** started as Cheshire's new Chief Constable on 1 December 2008.

Mr Whatton, who had a wealth of experience and was the former Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police, had been tasked by the Police Authority to deliver further improvements in performance.

## Policing Priorities

THE Police Authority's Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood announced the results of the recent public survey about the priorities for policing in 2009/10. There had been presentations at 'Have Your Say' meetings, a survey on the Authority's website; a conference for young people, and questionnaires to partners, community groups and the Citizen's Panel; with touch screen surveys in 19 Post Offices throughout Cheshire.

The top priorities for policing, identified by the 2500 respondents to the survey, included responding to emergency calls; targeting organised crime and terrorism; targeting drug dealers; tackling domestic and child abuse; detecting crime and arresting offenders; and protecting witnesses. The survey also revealed that 67% of people felt that Cheshire Constabulary do an excellent or good job.

The Authority would now use the results to set the policing objectives for the new Chief Constable.



## The Policing Pledge

THE Chief Executive announced that Cheshire Constabulary and Police Authority had adopted the Policing Pledge as set out by the Home Secretary. The Pledge set the standards of service the public can expect from the police and included response times, feedback to victims and witnesses of crime, and contact details for local police officers.

A copy of the Policing Pledge can be viewed on the Authority's website – [www.cheshirepa.police.uk](http://www.cheshirepa.police.uk)

## East Cheshire CDRP – Priorities

ALAN Lawson, the Partnership Co-ordinator for the Macclesfield Community Safety Partnership discussed the background and the work of the new East Cheshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, which involved the new unitary council and the Police working with the local community, local agencies and businesses to tackle problems of community safety, crime and disorder. The Partnership would co-ordinate the efforts of the partners in addressing local issues in order to make East Cheshire a safer place.

Following a strategic assessment, offender and crime management, town centre management, neighbourhood management and greater engagement with business and agencies had been identified as the top priorities by those consulted and proposed to be tackled from April 2009.

Questionnaires were circulated seeking views on the four proposed priorities.



## Police Budget

MARGARET Ollerenshaw discussed the Authority's proposed budget for 2009/10 and outlined the extensive consultation with the public undertaken last year. Mrs Ollerenshaw commented on the significant investment that had been made in frontline services to protect the people of Cheshire; to tackle serious and organised crime; the recruitment of additional sex offender liaison officers; increased roads policing; and improved witness protection and care. The investment had been possible due to the public support for an increase of 38p per week in council tax for a Band D property last year.

It was reported that for 2009/10, the Government had increased the grant for policing by 2.5% and limited Cheshire Police Authority's council tax increase to a maximum of 3% - an extra 8p per week on a Band D household. Mrs Ollerenshaw discussed the pressures that faced the Authority's finances; the limited grant; inflationary issues; the credit crunch; and the significant reduction in interest rates.

Almost £2m of savings had been identified and the Authority would be working with the Chief Constable to identify where further savings could be made whilst protecting frontline services, continuing to improve neighbourhood policing and tackling serious and organised crime.

## Policing in Macclesfield



Chief Superintendent **Paul McHugh**  
*Eastern Area Commander*

**Chief Superintendent McHugh reported on the successful policing initiatives undertaken over the Christmas and New Year period which resulted in a significant reduction in alcohol related crime and disorder, violent crime and anti-social behaviour.**

Recorded crime, domestic burglary, violent crime, vehicle crime and criminal damage in Macclesfield between December 2007- November 2008 had all decreased by 4%, 16%, 6%, 7% and 9% respectively compared with the same period in the previous year. Details were also circulated of recent operations and local incidents of note.

## Policing in Macclesfield (continued)



Inspector **Gareth Woods**  
*Macclesfield NPU*

Inspector Woods gave an overview of the work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Policing Unit and in partnership with other agencies to address drug misuse/abuse and related crime – burglaries, theft from retailers. Local officers were targeting individuals for graffiti which under the Restorative Justice initiative had resulted in three youths undertaking community work; targeting alcohol related crime and violent disorder to make areas safe at night and introducing bans from licensed premises, seizing alcohol from people drinking in public places and targeting the sale of alcohol to under 18s.

## Question Time

**Q.** Why are police officers not seen in the community?

**A.** Inspector Woods advised that officers and PCSOs were regularly deployed to target local priorities and undertook high visibility patrols on foot, to provide reassurance to the local community throughout the Macclesfield area. This view was supported by many of the people in attendance at the meeting.

**Q.** Did the Constabulary only react to crimes?

**A.** The Inspector advised that the Constabulary did not only act in reactive style but that the various NPUs had been created to focus on problem solving, providing a more accessible service with increased contact in the local community. Modern policing was formed on using intelligence to deter, detect and disrupt criminality as well as responding to calls for assistance from the public.

**Q.** Would the extension of alcohol prohibition areas assist the Police?

**A.** The Inspector advised that officers were able to seize and confiscate alcohol in these areas and was an aid to reducing incidents of anti-social behaviour. Chief Superintendent McHugh reported on the success of the zones and would offer consistency, if extended throughout east Cheshire.

**Q.** Did the extension to the opening hours of licensed premises create problems for the police?

**A.** Chief Superintendent McHugh reported that the shift patterns had been extended to take into account the demand in the early hours. Inspector Woods that officers increased visibility particularly in the town centres at night and worked with the local retailers and licensees to reduce violent crime.

Appreciation was expressed to Inspector Woods and his officers for the excellent work on the Moss Estate and in the schools which had made older residents feel safer.

**Q.** Who received the Christmas warning cards from the Police?

**A.** Chief Superintendent McHugh commented the initiative was aimed at known persistent offenders advising that the Police were watching them, but not those in rehabilitation

programmes with the National Offender Management Service.

**Q.** Concern was expressed by a representative of the Cheshire Association of Local Councils that rural areas did not get the same level of police resources as urban areas and asked whether officers worked across force borders.

**A.** The Chief Superintendent advised that the Police did work across both internal area and force borders with roads policing officers and many operations, targeting vehicles which were stolen or had no tax/insurance, etc, and rural crime. Rural areas did have a lower level of crime and incidents compared with urban areas and received a proportionate level of resources. NPU and rural officers dedicated a significant amount of time to building community links and would be well supported by the many PCSOs part funded by the town and parish councils in the area.

**Q.** What was happening to the Community Action Meetings?

**A.** Inspector Woods reported that under the Policing Pledge, the Constabulary had a duty to engage and consult with the public on a regular basis and that meetings would continue to take place, and where possible would be arranged to coincide with other community meetings.

**Q.** Have the extended licensing hours increased the demand on policing?

**A.** Chief Superintendent McHugh commented that the spread of closing times had caused a shift in the time officers work as more were needed later in the night, but this spread had eased the pressures caused when pubs and clubs used to close all at the same time.

**Q.** Robbery in Knutsford – Was it the local officers who attended first?

**A.** Chief Superintendent McHugh confirmed that it was the officers based in Knutsford who were very quick and first on the scene. The Chairman referred to an article in the Knutsford Guardian about the perceived lack of a visible police presence in the town, and the Chief Superintendent confirmed that officers did patrol the area.