

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.

Meetings will be held at 7.00pm on the following Tuesdays:

- o **15 April 2008**
Kelsall Community Parish School, Flat Lane, Kelsall, nr Chester
- o **15 July 2008**
Lache Community Centre, Hawthorn Road, Lache, Chester
- o **14 October 2008**
Barbour Institute, Tattenhall, Chester
- o **13 January 2009**
St Mary's Centre, St Mary's Hill, Chester

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:-

Chester Outer 0845 458 6375

chester.outer.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Blacon, Boughton Heath, Vicars Cross, Huntington, Hoole, Upton, Handbridge, Westminster and Curzon Park, Lache, Newton, Saughall and parts of Saltney.

Chester City Centre 0845 458 6384

chester.inner.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Chester City Centre, Boughton, College Ward and Sealand Road area.

Broxton (Dragon Hall) 0845 458 6377

dragon.hall.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Dogleston, Tarporley and Tattenhall.

Frodsham 0845 458 6393

frodsham.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Cuddington, Elton, Frodsham and Sandiway.

Mickle Trafford 0845 458 6394

mickle.trafford.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Mickle Trafford area.

Cheshire Police Authority
www.cheshirepa.police.uk

Mission
To work in partnership with Cheshire Constabulary and others to assist with community, and public order, and substance and substance in policing.

Vision
To ensure an efficient and effective police service, that is built on high standards of integrity and looks at how it can best protect and make the citizens of Cheshire safe and secure.

Aims

- To assist in achieving a community right performing force.
- To ensure arrangements to perform and service, underpinned by robust governance structures and approvals. Member support.
- To ensure service users have effective engagement with capabilities.
- To ensure partnership working with the Constabulary and externally.
- To be a visible 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
- Multiple 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



Cheshire Police Authority

Have **your** say

Chester

January 2008



Have Your Say Chairman:
Police Authority Member
Sue Proctor

This newsletter gives you feedback on the 'Have Your Say' meeting on 15 January 2008 at St. Mary's Centre, Chester which was attended by 27 members of the public, local community representatives and press attended the meeting.

The Police Authority's Chairman, Peter Nurse and Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood, the Constabulary's Assistant Chief Constable, Garry Shewan, and Chief Superintendent Tim Jackson were present to answer questions.

Mrs Proctor opened the meeting by explaining the role and work of the Police Authority encouraging those in attendance to contribute to the discussion and stressed that the Authority wanted the public to have their say on Policing.

Funding For Policing: Budget Consultation

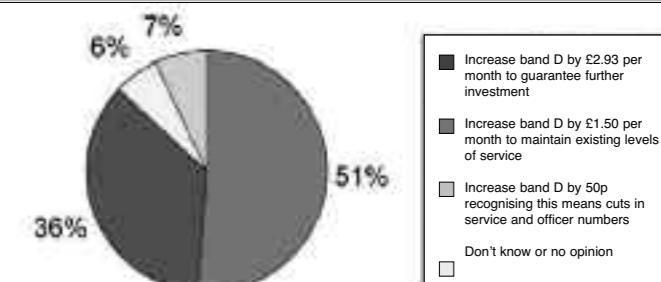
PETER Nurse discussed the Authority's budget for 2008/09 and commented that much consultation had been undertaken with the public on what police services they wished to see improved and how much extra they were willing to pay. 87% of the respondents to a poll by MORI were prepared to pay an extra £1.50 or more per month.

Public opinion

MORI asked 2,400 people – 300 in each district area – for their views on policing.

79% confirmed that Cheshire Police are currently doing a good or very good job BUT people wanted to see more investment in policing and their priorities are detailed in the table opposite.

On average, people thought 20% of their council tax was spent on policing rather than the 8-9% that the police precept accounts for.



During the last cycle of Forums over half the people who completed a questionnaire supported an extra £2.93 a month or more.

Mr Nurse reminded those present that the police council tax in Cheshire, Halton and Warrington at £116 per average Band D property was the lowest of all shire forces and the third lowest in England and Wales. The Authority was considering an increase in council tax of up to 28%, which would mean an average property (Band D) paying £2.93 more per month for policing. This investment would enable the police to further improve police response to incidents, provide more officers on the streets, tackle more serious and organised crime, increased monitoring of sex offenders, greater support for victims and witnesses; deal faster with people in custody; and continue to provide better customer services whilst reducing crime levels and would address the shortfall caused by the current low tax level.

The Government was to increase its funding for Cheshire Police by 2.5% - one of the lowest increases in the country –

which will not provide enough money to maintain services or allow the investment to deliver the improvements the public want. The Government has also advised police authorities not to set excessive council tax increases or they may intervene.

Those in attendance discussed the budget position and enquired about the proposed increases in council tax of other local authorities; the impact of the review of local government; the level of funding in other police areas and an enquiry into what improvements in policing the additional funding would provide. Mr Nurse commented that the review of local government would not affect the police council tax and outlined the higher level of police council tax in all forces surrounding Cheshire. The Assistant Chief Constable advised that the additional investment would further improve police response to incidents, provide more officers on the streets, tackle serious and organised crime, monitor sex offenders, support victims and witnesses, process people faster in custody and continue to provide better customer services whilst reducing crime levels.

● Policing Objectives 2008/09

THE Chief Executive reported that following public consultation a series of proposed objectives had been developed for the Chief Constable to focus on in 2008/09 which included:-

Crime reduction to make communities safer; working with partners to tackle anti-social behaviour and reduce the fear and annoyance caused by alcohol and drug related disorder; community policing to increase public confidence and satisfaction; working with criminal justice partners to bring more offenders to justice; work locally, regionally and nationally to help tackle organised and serious crime; and improve productivity and efficiency to enable the police to become more outcome focused, adding value to front line policing and providing the best possible service and value for money.



● The role of Police Community Support Officers

PCSO Karen Dennis who was part-funded by the Parish Council discussed her role and the work she undertook in Great Boughton, which included high-visibility patrol; visiting schools; working with young people; providing reassurance to victims of crime and the local community; and targeting low level crime and anti-social behaviour. She also attended Community Action Meetings (CAMs) which enabled the public to raise issues of local concern with the police.



Those in attendance asked how she communicated with the local community; the turnover of PCSOs compared to regular officers and how the public viewed PCSOs to which Karen responded.

A summary of a review by the Police Authority of the work undertaken by PCSOs was circulated.

● 'Police Forums' Review: Feedback

THE Chief Executive circulated a report on the results of the review of Police Forums undertaken in 2007 which many attendees had participated in.

The report detailed the changes and improvements being made to the Forums which included raising public awareness; changing the name to 'Have Your Say' meetings; focusing on more interaction with the public; new venues; varying start times and improved audio equipment.



● Policing in Chester



Chief Superintendent **Tim Jackson**, Area Commander

Chief Superintendent Jackson introduced the officers present and reported on a number of personnel changes in the Western Area.



Inspector **Mel Williams**, Chester Inner NPU

Inspector Williams reported on the pro-active work undertaken by officers in robustly targeting prolific and persistent offenders which included several arrests for supply and possession of cocaine and heroin and the recovery of drugs; an operation to catch purse snatchers over the Christmas period; and the reduction in offences partly attributable to the receipt of intelligence from the local community.



Inspector **Ian Thorp**, Chester Outer NPU

The Inspector reported on the positive work undertaken to ensure that the local community felt safe and that criminals were brought to justice by high visibility patrols; targeting anti-social behaviour and alcohol related problems in hotspot areas; attending more incidents; and improving the service given to the public and victims of crime via the new Customer Service Desks.



Inspector **Phil Hodgson**, Chester Rural NPU

Inspector Hodgson commented on several initiatives operated in the area to target urinating in public places; and improving road safety for school children on cycles and other road users.

● Question Time

- Q. How many CCTV cameras were operating in the City Centre and how successful were they in combating crime?
- A. Inspector Williams reported that there were in excess of 60 cameras operating, which were monitored 24/7 by a dedicated team of staff based at the Town Hall. The footage enabled crimes or anti-social behaviour to be viewed and appropriate resource deployed to the incident. It also enabled individuals and incidents to be captured as vital evidence for presentation to court.
- Q. Concern was expressed that no apparent action was taken against licensees who sell alcohol to under 18's or continue selling to already drunk people.
- A. Chief Superintendent Jackson reported he has a dedicated licensing officer who works closely with partner agencies and licensees and through 'Pubwatch' and the licensees Forum, the Police ensured that premises operated correctly. However, robust enforcement action where necessary was taken and examples were given of a number of licensed premises which had been closed in Ellesmere Port, Winsford and Northwich.
- Q. Why did PCSOs not work to any performance indicators?
- A. The Assistant Chief Constable advised that the introduction of PCSOs was a relatively new development for the Constabulary and that their role and involvement and taskings were being analysed. Performance indicators were to be introduced in April 2008.
- Appreciation was expressed to the Officers from Dragonhall involved in the investigation of a racial incident in Tattenhall, which resulted in the offender being sent to prison.
- Q. What action was being taken against motorists under the influence of drugs?
- A. Chief Superintendent Jackson reported that a mobile squad of police officers operated in the Area carrying out field impairment tests (FIT) on motorists and that the acquisition of new equipment enabled drug identification and testing to be carried out. The Chairman reminded the meeting that a presentation on the various tests undertaken on motorists had been given at the April 2007 meeting.