

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 on the following Wednesdays:-

- **30 April 2008 at 7.00pm**
Grangeway Community Centre, Grangeway, Runcorn
- **2 July 2008 at 2.00pm**
Kingsway Learning Centre, Victoria Square, Widnes
- **8 October 2008 at 7.00pm**
Grangeway Community Centre, Grangeway, Runcorn
- **28 January 2009 at 7.00pm**
Kingsway Learning Centre, Victoria Square, Widnes

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:-

Runcorn 0845 458 6381

runcorn.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Runcorn, Moore, Daresbury, Preston Brook and Sandymoor

Widnes 0845 458 6383

widnes.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Covering Widnes, Hale, Ditton and Upton

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 levels of criminality, and makes the citizens of Cheshire safe and secure

Aims

- To assist in achieving a community right performing force
- To ensure arrangements to perform and continue to be improved by robust governance structures and approvals. Member support
- To ensure senior management effective engagement with stakeholders
- To ensure partnership working with the Constabulary and others
- 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
- Property is used or threatened
- Domestic 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

Halton

January 2008



Have Your Say Chairman:
Police Authority Member
David Cargill

This newsletter gives you feedback on the 'Have Your Say' meeting on 9 January 2008 at the Riverside College, Widnes which was attended by 11 members of the public and local community representatives.

The Authority's Chairman, Peter Nurse and Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood, and Deputy Chief Constable, Graeme Gerrard were present to answer questions. Chief Superintendent Gary Finchett, Inspector Nadia Brew of the Widnes NPU and Sergeant Chris Byrne of Runcorn NPU were also in attendance.

David Cargill opened the meeting by explaining what the Police Authority does and encouraging those in attendance to contribute to the discussion about policing in the area. The Chairman stressed that the Authority wanted the public to have their say on policing and would take action on the issues raised.

Funding For Policing: Budget Consultation

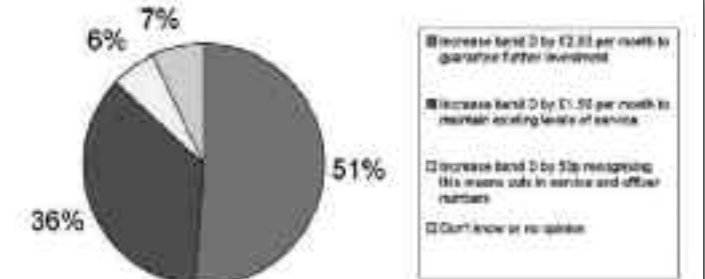
PETER Nurse discussed the Authority's budget for 2008/09 and commented that much consultation had been undertaken with the public on what services they wished to see improved and how much extra they were willing to pay. 87% of the respondents to a poll by MORI were prepared to pay an extra £1.50 or more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

Public opinion

MORI asked 2,400 people – 300 in each borough 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 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.

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 have 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 impact of local government re-organisation on the police budget. The Chairman advised that this would not affect the police council tax.

🕒 Policing Objectives 2008/09

THE Chief Executive announced that after public consultation the following proposed objectives had been developed for the Chief Constable to focus on in 2008/09:-



1 CRIME REDUCTION

Make Our Communities Safer – To further reduce overall crime, in particular serious violent and acquisitive crime levels, by working with local agencies to identify and solve problems; help reduce re offending; and the number of deaths and serious injuries on our roads.



2 WORKING WITH OTHERS

Anti-social Behaviour – Listen, respond to and support our communities; work with our partners to help reduce the fear and annoyance caused by alcohol and drug related disorder.



3 COMMUNITY POLICING

Increase public confidence and satisfaction – Help build stronger communities through positive neighbourhood policing strategies, visible patrol, responding in a timely manner and proactively engaging with the public.



4 BRING OFFENDERS TO JUSTICE

Criminal Justice System – Improve the way we and our partners bring offences to justice and increase the number of witnesses and victims who are satisfied with the service they receive.



5 SERIOUS CRIME

Work locally, regionally and nationally to help tackle organised and serious crime and reduce the harm cause by it to ensure the public feel confident and protected.



6 RESOURCES

Improve productivity and efficiency so we become more outcomes focused, adding value to front line policing. Challenging and improving our business processes by knowing what works and why so we can provide our customers with the best possible service and value for money.

🕒 The role of Police Community Support Officers

PCSO Steve Marnick discussed his role and the work he undertook in the Hale Village area, which involved high-visibility patrol, providing reassurance to the local community and targeting low level crime and anti-social behaviour issues.

He also attended Community Action Meetings (CAMs) which enabled the public to raise issues of local concern with the police.



🕒 '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 Halton



Acting Chief Superintendent
Gary Finchett
Northern Area



CHIEF Superintendent Finchett reported on the policing priorities for Halton for the forthcoming year which included targeting anti-social behaviour; violent crime; burglary dwellings; prolific offenders; and protecting vulnerable people.

The Chief Superintendent gave a brief overview of policing and the operations undertaken during the last three months; the increase in performance in call management; and the undertaking of a poll of victims of crime which indicated that 8 out of 10 victims were satisfied with their contact with the police.

Details were circulated of local incidents of note and the levels of recorded crime, violent crime, burglary and vehicle crime for Halton, which had decreased by 19%, 26%, 33% and 4% respectively compared with the same period in the previous year. The number of fatal and serious road traffic collision had also reduced by 18%.

Inspector Brew outlined the work undertaken by the NPU and TPT officers in Widnes since the

last meeting which included responding to all 70 reported incidents on Hallowe'en; working with young people; parents and partner agencies to provide diversionary activities for youths; the seizure of 15 mini-motorbikes for destruction. Other operations included high visibility patrols of car parks to target vulnerable vehicles and the town centre which resulted in a reduction of alcohol related violent crime; the execution of 15 warrants for drug offences; and targeting off-licences and the sale of alcohol to under 18's.

Sergeant Byrne of the Runcorn NPU reported on a number of successful initiatives and operations undertaken to target criminals; mini-motorbikes; anti-social behaviour; drugs; untaxed and uninsured vehicles; and offering reassurance to the local community.

🕒 Question Time

Q. Concern about the delay in the police attending a shed break-in back in April 2007.

A. Inspector Brew agreed to pursue the matter with the questioner after the meeting.

The Chairman thanked those in attendance and wished to encourage more people to attend future meetings and 'Have you say' on policing.