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:

- **15 July 2008**
  Lache Community Centre, Hawthorn Road, Lache, Chester
- **14 October 2008**
  Barbour Institute, Tattenhall, Chester
- **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 Dodleston, 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

Have your say

Chester

Have Your Say Chairman: Police Authority Member ***Sue Proctor***

April 2008

THIS newsletter gives you feedback on the meeting on 15 April 2008 at the Community Parish School, Kelsall, Chester.

30 members of the public and local community representatives attended the meeting.

The Police Authority's Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood, the Chief Constable Peter Fahy, Chief Superintendent Tim Jackson and Superintendent Jon Betts were present to answer questions. The three NPU Inspectors for the Chester inner, outer and rural sectors were also in attendance.

Mrs Proctor opened the meeting by giving an update on the Authority's budget for 2008/09 and thanked those who had participated in the consultation process which had shown strong support for an increase in council tax to invest in policing.

The Authority had increased council tax by 17% (£1.64 extra per month on a band D property) which will enable the police to improve neighbourhood policing; tackle more serious and organised crime; provide better support to victims of crime and witnesses; and customer service.

The Government had indicated it may take action against the Authority for the increase. The Authority would be meeting Ministers to explain its case and the need to improve investment to make people safer.

Terrorism

DETECTIVE Chief Inspector Paul Taylor, Head of Special Branch, gave a presentation on the role and work undertaken by the Branch to counter terrorism and domestic extremism across Cheshire.

Outlined was the national threat levels which ranged from low to critical – the current level is severe which is defined as an attack is highly likely.

The links and consequences of national incidents such as the London and Glasgow bombings, to Cheshire were discussed which included increased costs associated with additional high-visible patrols and support to the forces in the affected areas.

Potential terrorist indicators were discussed, for example people videoing or photographing security arrangements at venues such as train stations, airports or crowded places.

Communities were asked to remain vigilant to people who may be visiting terrorist related internet sites, people who were using false travel documents or suspicious people renting lock up garages or self storage facilities.

The public were urged to report any suspicious activity that they observe to:-

Cheshire Constabulary's Special Branch:
01244 612123
or
Confidential Anti-Terrorist Hotline:
0800 789 321

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. The meeting received performance data for recorded crime, burglary, violent crime and vehicle crime for Chester and local incidents of note.

Superintendent Betts reported on his career history to date and his current role. He detailed the importance of the Have Your Say meetings which gave the public the opportunity to raise issues of concern which can be addressed by the appropriate team of dedicated officers.

Inspector **Phil Hodgson**
Chester Rural NPU
Inspector Hodgson commented on several initiatives in the area which included the closure of two cannabis farms with several arrests being made and a substantial quantity of cannabis seized; the arrest and imprisonment of a male for an assault in Christleton; the targeting of youth nuisance and anti-social behaviour in Elton by restricting the sale of alcohol to under 18's and the provision of diversionary activities.

Inspector **Ian Thorp**
Chester Outer NPU
The Inspector reported on the work being undertaken to target anti-social behaviour; focusing on prolific and persistent offenders; and improving customer service. During the last 6 months one ASBO had been issued and 110 young people were being monitored by the police and other agencies in order to improve their behaviour. Extensive work was being undertaken to challenge retailers about the sale of alcohol to under 18's. One particular policing initiative had offered reassurance and confidence to the local community and resulted in a significant increase in customers using shops in Blacon during the evening. Other initiatives included working with Chester & District Housing Trust to instigate crime reduction measures for vulnerable tenants and target re-occurring incidents of crime. In 2007/08 crime had reduced by 17% resulting in 936 fewer victims.

Inspector **Mel Williams**
Chester Inner NPU
Inspector Williams discussed the pro-active work undertaken by a Sergeant and a team of ten officers to target alcohol related crime in the City centre particularly on Friday and Saturday evenings. By working with the licensing authority and 'Pubwatch', undertaking high visibility patrols, and targeting hotspots - alcohol related crime had reduced. A 10 year ASBO preventing entry into pubs, restaurants and other on-licensed premises across Cheshire as a whole had been issued on a violent and intimidating 34 year old male.

Question Time

Q. A representative of Kelsall Parish Council commented on anti-social behaviour, litter, alcohol related nuisance and speeding in the village.
A. Inspector Hodgson agreed to inform the Roads Policing Unit of the issue of speeding and had held discussions with the Parish Council on the other issues.

Q. Support for the 17% increase in the police budget and whether the cost per taxpayer should be promoted as opposed to the percentage increase.
A. The Chairman agreed that this is the format that the Authority wished the increase to be viewed.

Q. How could ASBOs be better publicised in rural areas – on parish notice boards?
A. Chief Superintendent Jackson replied that those people who had been convicted of criminal offences or were subject of ASBOs had forfeited their right to anonymity. However, the circulation and publication of photographs of offenders needed to be targeted in those areas that they were known to frequent.

Q. Concern about 'fly-tipping' in Dunham Hill and the cost to the Parish Council for its removal and about the introduction of various speed limits and signage in the area.
A. The Chairman advised that the issue of 'fly tipping' was the responsibility of Chester City Council and that any 'street scene' issues should be reported on 01244 402477. The speed limit issues should be raised with Cheshire County Council.

Appreciation was expressed from a representative of Huxley 'Homewatch' for the increased police presence in the rural areas and for the dissemination of regular information to 'Homewatch' co-ordinators.

A comment was made that more should be undertaken to provide diversionary opportunities for young people. The Chairman advised that the Constabulary was involved with multi-agencies including the Youth Service to provide positive activities.

Q. Clarification was sought on the procedures for dealing with abandoned/lost or injured dogs on the highway.
A. The Chief Constable commented that the police were not responsible for looking after lost and injured dogs and did not have the budget to fund associated Vets bills. Chester City Council was the responsible authority and should be contacted.