

# 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 Thursdays:**

- **10 July 2008**  
Civic Hall, Nantwich
- **23 October 2008**  
Municipal Buildings, Crewe
- **22 January 2009**  
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:-

**Crewe** 0845 458 6370

[crewe.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:crewe.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)

Covering Crewe, Haslington, Coppenhall, Leighton, Sydney, Wistaston, Shavington.

**Nantwich** 0845 458 6378

[nantwich.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:nantwich.cat@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)

Covering Nantwich, Willaston, Stapeley, Audlem, Bunbury.

**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

Crewe & Nantwich



Have Your Say Chairman:  
Police Authority Member  
**Peter Nurse**

April 2008

**THIS newsletter gives you feedback after the meeting on 17 April 2008 in the Municipal Buildings, Crewe.**

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

The Authority's Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood and Superintendent Geraint Jones were present to answer questions along with the NPU Inspectors for Crewe and Nantwich.

Mr Nurse 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.

**Cheshire Police Authority**

## Investment in policing 2008/09

**Better response** ✓ Crime is falling in Cheshire, especially the types of crime that affects people's quality of life. Last year, crime in Cheshire fell by 7% compared with 4% across the North West and we recorded the greatest reduction in criminal damage at 10%, in the current year crime is down by a further 13%.

**More visible patrols** ✓ This was achieved on an extremely tight budget. We have kept council tax increases low for the last 7 years, making Cheshire one of the most cost effective police forces in the country with council tax payers paying less. We have also made £30m worth of savings which we have re-invested in front-line services.

**More monitoring of sex offenders** ✓ But a gap has developed between what council tax payers have been paying and what we can afford to provide. If we are to continue to improve performance and service, combat the threat of extremism and serious organised criminality, the funding has to be addressed.

**Better customer service** ✓ The Authority has consulted widely with the public about what services you wanted to see improve and how much you are prepared to pay – 87% were prepared to invest at least an extra £1.50 per month.

**More crime reduction** ✓ Following that consultation, we have increased council tax for a Band D property by £1.64 per month which will make a real difference to how we police your community.

**More arrests** ✓ The budget will provide an additional £2.6m to tackle serious and organised crime and £1.6m for neighbourhood policing. This will improve policing services and your safety.

**Better use of information** ✓

**More support for victims & witnesses** ✓

**Fighting terrorism** ✓

**Tackling serious crime** ✓

Peter Nurse,  
Chairman of the Police Authority

**your Authority**  
is responsible, amongst other matters, for setting the budget and, following consultation with local communities, agreeing Chief Constable challenging targets to drive performance higher.

**What similar neighbouring authorities charge local tax payers for policing**

Based on Band D properties	£
Cheshire	2508.09
Derbyshire	£135.75
North Wales	£148.44
Staffordshire	£195.18
West Mercia	£166.16
	£165.45

www.cheshirepa.police.uk

**A community based partnership**



## 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**



## Question Time

**Q.** How much will the additional officers to fight terrorism, as recently announced by the Government, cost?

**A.** Detective Chief Inspector Taylor commented that the additional officers would be targeted at the most high risk areas in the country and would be funded by the Government. Superintendent Jones added that there were around 400 officers in neighbourhood policing units to provide reassurance and gather intelligence on possible threats.

**Q.** How many of the identified 2000 terrorists live in Cheshire?

**A.** Detective Chief Inspector Taylor advised that it was not appropriate to provide that information, however, it was confirmed that terrorists could live in any part of the country.

**Q.** Whilst the PCSOs in Shavington provided visibility between the hours of 8.00am and 10.00pm, concern was expressed about the lack of police presence after 10.00pm.

**A.** Superintendent Jones advised that the expansion of the night-time economy in Crewe and Nantwich created a large demand on resources. PCSOs were restricted to work up to 12 midnight. Inspector Broadhurst agreed to review the matter.

**Q.** What police action was being taken to combat crime by Polish immigrants?

**A.** The Superintendent commented that migration had provided benefits to the community and in Crewe there had only been a minor increase in alcohol related crime, drink driving, and carrying weapons which in some instances reflected cultural differences. Due to language barriers and the need for interpreters, the interview process took longer and work was being undertaken to try and reduce this with the recruitment of Special Constables from the Polish Community.

**Q.** What police action was to be taken in relation to the gypsies in Stapeley?

**A.** The Superintendent reported that gypsies were able to move freely and that it was not for the police to intervene unless there was a danger to the community or a court had ordered certain action. The Chairman added that the problem was exacerbated by the poor provision of sites in Cheshire.

**Q.** Is a 'no drinking zone' in force in the Alexandra ward of Crewe?

**A.** Superintendent Jones confirmed there was a number of 'no drinking zones' throughout the area and that officers were able to seize alcohol and advise parents of

their child's behaviour. Work was being undertaken with retailers about the sale of alcohol to under 18s.

**Q.** What police action could be taken against young people congregating, playing football and skateboarding on the Municipal Square and their reluctance to use the purpose built skate park?

**A.** Superintendent Jones advised that the area had become a safe meeting place for young people and that action could not be taken against them until they had committed an offence. Inspector Broadhurst advised that the skate park did have CCTV and lighting so there should not be any incidents of anti-social behaviour or violence which would deter young people from using it.

**Q.** Clarification was sought between 'nuisance behaviour' and 'anti-social behaviour'.

**A.** Inspector Jones advised that it was for the individual to interpret what was reasonable and to contact the police who would decide what action if any should be taken. If the incidents affected the community's quality of life, officers or PCSOs could be deployed to take action.

**Q.** Concern about the lack of police attendance to reports of anti-social behaviour incidents in Salisbury Avenue.

**A.** Superintendent Jones reported that messages left on the voicemail were received by the Customer Service Desk and actioned to officers accordingly. The introduction of a new appointment system – enabled the public to make an appointment to see a police officer at a time convenient to them and to discuss non-urgent crimes. He asked the questioner to speak to Inspector Broadhurst after the meeting to enable the issue to be reviewed.

**Q.** What was the reason for low crime levels in certain months?

**A.** The Superintendent commented that there were critical periods throughout the year when crimes increased and additional resources were deployed. Examples given included during the summer holidays an increase in anti-social behaviour incidents and burglaries as residents leave windows and doors open or when the clocks are turned back and houses are in darkness. Also particular police attention was paid to key offenders on release from prison.

**Q.** Had any arrests been made for the recent incidents of arson?

**A.** Inspector Broadhurst reported that the police had worked with the Fire Service to gather forensic evidence at the scenes and that several arrests had been made.

## Policing in Crewe & Nantwich



Superintendent **Geraint Jones**

Superintendent Jones gave an overview of policing in Crewe and Nantwich and reported on recent activities. Operations focused on burglary dwellings, violent crime and vehicle crime and had resulted in a significant reduction in these crimes. Other initiatives included NPU officers working with partner agencies to make best use of PCSOs; the early targeting of persistent and prolific offenders, in conjunction with other support agencies, to encourage them to stop offending; and in relation to the night-time economy identifying and targeting anti-social behaviour, drugs and criminal damage. The Area was continually aiming to improve its citizen focus in relation to victims with regard to ease of police contact and feedback.

The Superintendent outlined some of the priority areas in 2008/09 which included developing a Control Strategy to identify the key areas to be targeted to

enable resources to be prioritised accordingly; working with partners to tackle class 'A' drugs; target bogus callers to continue the reduction in household burglaries; aim to improve the driving behaviour of young people by education and enforcement; work with the Housing Trust to investigate fraudulent insurance claims; and target alcohol related incidents and the sale of alcohol to under 18s.



Inspector **Bob Hassall**  
Nantwich NPU



Inspector **Paul Broadhurst**  
Crewe NPU