

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.

FUTURE OF MEETINGS

The Chairman advised that the Authority was undertaking a trial of afternoon meetings, to enable a greater cross section of the public to attend and raise any concerns or policing issues.

- **The meeting on 2 July 2008 would start at 2.00pm at Kingsway Learning Centre, Victoria Square, Widnes.**

Future meetings would be held at 7.00pm on the following Wednesdays:-

- **8 October 2008**
Grangeway Community Centre, Grangeway, Runcorn
- **28 January 2009**
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 Communities and others to assist with crime prevention, and public confidence and satisfaction in policing.

Vision
To provide 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, underpinned by robust governance structures and appropriate Member support.
- To ensure service excellence through engagement with stakeholders.
- To respond positively, working with the Community and externally.
- To be visible to leaders 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
- 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

April 2008



Have Your Say Chairman:
Police Authority Member
David Cargill

This newsletter gives you feedback on the 'Have Your Say' meeting on 30 April 2008 at the Grangeway Community Centre, Runcorn which was attended by 10 members of the public and local community representatives.

The Authority's Chief Executive, Mark Sellwood, and Assistant Chief Constable, David Baines were present to answer questions. Superintendent Jed Manley, Inspector Richard Hill of the Runcorn NPU and Inspector Simon Blackwell of the Halton Community Safety Partnership were also in attendance.

Mr Cargill opened the meeting by providing 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 the case and the need to improve investment to make people safer.

Cheshire Police Authority
Investment in policing 2008/09

- Better response** ✓ Crime is rising in Cheshire, especially the types of crime that affect people's quality of life. Last year crime in Cheshire fell by 2% compared with 4% across the West Midlands and we committed for a 10% reduction in criminal damage of 30%, which would have cost us about a further 20%.
- Better night police** ✓ You are entitled to an extremely quiet night. We have kept council tax for night police lower in the county than most other police forces. We have also made 2008 the year of quiet nights which we have re-invested in front-line services.
- Better customer service** ✓ Set a top class standard of service, what counts for us is not just paying for what we can afford to provide. It is how we respond to improve performance and how we create the best of our police and support organisations, the funding has to be addressed.
- Better crime reduction** ✓ The Authority has remained steady with the public about what we can expect to be achieved. It is our hope that you are prepared to pay - 17% more, prepared to follow that commitment. We have increased council tax for a band D property by £1.64 per month which will make a real difference to how the police work.
- Better support for victims & witnesses** ✓ We have all made an investment in the police, we have to make sure we invest in the support services that are needed to support the police. This will involve police services over the next year.
- Reducing parking charges** ✓ This is a commitment of the Police Authority.

your Authority
It is responsible, sensible, efficient, for us to pay for budget cuts, following consultation with police, witnesses, victims, and the community. Investing that money in the way that makes the most of it is the challenge that we face.

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.



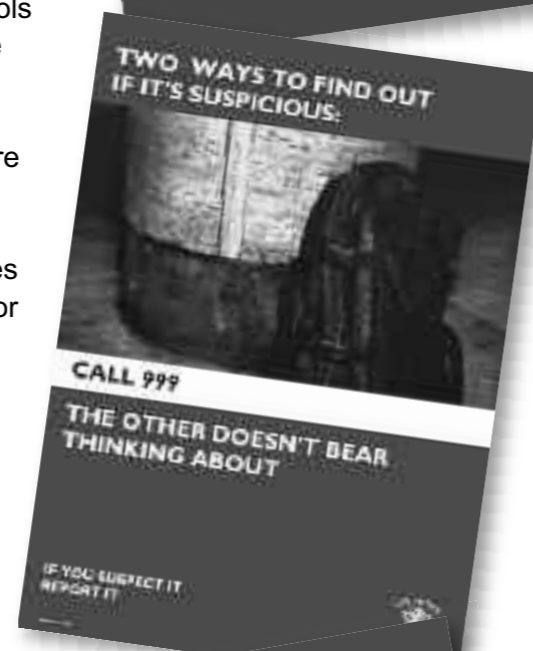
Communities were asked to remain vigilant to people who may be visiting terrorist related internet sites, people who were using false travel documents or suspicious people renting lock up garages or self storage facilities.

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**



Policing in Halton

Superintendent
Jed Manley
Northern Area

Superintendent Manley reported on the Area's performance which had seen levels of recorded crime, violent crime, burglary and vehicle crime decrease by 7.6%, 13.4%, 11.5% and 9% respectively compared with the previous year. A more efficient and effective way of deploying officers to incidents had been introduced together with an appointments system – where the public can make an appointment to see a police officer usually within 48 hours to discuss non-urgent crimes.

Inspector Hill outlined the work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Policing Units and Targeted Patrol Teams in Runcorn which included targeting proxy purchasing and the sale of alcohol to under 18's, working with British Transport Police to deter crime and anti-social behaviour at Hough Green railway station; several arrests for drug offences including cultivation of cannabis plants and possession; the revocation of a premises licence following a series of anti-social incidents; targeting motorists using mobile 'phones whilst driving; and the theft of lead from buildings.

Inspector Blackwell reported on recent initiatives undertaken by the Halton Community Safety Partnership in conjunction with the Housing Trust to target stolen property being stored in Trust owned and disused garages; the use of the ANPR system to identify stolen, untaxed and uninsured vehicles; supporting key individuals through the Family Intervention Initiative.

Question Time

- Q.** Concern was expressed about the lack of police action following a series of burglaries at a factory unit in Manor Park and the possibility of the Police not attending future incidents following a series of false alarms.
- A.** The Assistant Chief Constable reported that this was below the expected standard of the service and would arrange for Inspector Hill and his team to visit the questioner to discuss the issues in detail.
- Q.** Were the cameras located on traffic lights effective?
- A.** The Superintendent responded that there were two types of camera which were effective and acted as a deterrent – one was a red light infringement camera which photographed offenders and the other type was general surveillance. Both types were operated by the police. In addition the fixed and mobile ANPR cameras also fed information relating to vehicles into the local intelligence system.
- Q.** How did the police target the sale of stolen materials?
- A.** Inspector Blackwell advised that operations were undertaken to visit all local scrap yards and that Trade Waste Sites must maintain a register and record details of customers, vehicles, etc who sell material to them.