



Devon & Cornwall
Police Authority

NEWS & INFORMATION
2 / 2008

Police Authority Meetings and News

The Police Authority met on Friday 15 February 2008 at County Hall in Exeter and on Friday 14 March 2008 at The Police Authority Offices. The first of these meetings was broadcast live on the Police Authority website and it was agreed that from June 2008, the Police Authority will continue to broadcast its meetings live on the internet.

At their meeting on 15 February, the Authority agreed a revenue budget of £268,084,994m for the 2008-09 financial year, with a capital budget of £18.3m. This equates to a police precept for 2008/2009 for a Band D property of £142.19 per household, an increase in council Tax of approximately 20 pence a week per household. This will enable an additional 200 police officers to be released to the front line to provide more visible policing and tackle anti-social behaviour. This will have a big impact on local policing.

The continued funding of the Authority's target of 3500 police officers and 356 police community support officers and the new resources to move 200 police officers to the front line was welcomed.

Following a successful selection process in March, two new Assistant Chief Constables, Deborah Simpson from Bedfordshire and Paul Netherton from Hampshire were appointed. Sharon Taylor, who has been in an acting role as Assistant Chief Constable, was also successful in the selection process and has now been appointed in a substantive role.

For more information concerning any of the above, please contact the Police Authority – see page 4 for details.

Police Authority's New 3 Year Strategy

The Police Authority has recently set out its new 3-year strategy for 2008-2011.

The strategy sets out how the Authority will deliver towards its Vision:

“To ensure that the community's expectations for an excellent standard of policing in Devon and Cornwall is delivered”

The Vision is supported by our seven new Priorities

- Providing strategic leadership

- Managing performance and risk
- Defining a policing philosophy and style
- Engaging communities
- Supporting business improvement
- Marketing and communicating information
- Providing an effective Authority structure and working arrangements

Further details of the Police Authority's 3 year strategy can be found on our website: www.dcpa.police.uk or obtained by contacting us - please see the back page of this leaflet for contact details.

Aiming for the Top Ten

The Police Authority has set the Constabulary the challenge of becoming one of the Top 10 Forces in the country within three years.

This is defined as reducing serious crime to a level that is amongst the ten lowest of the 43 Forces in England and Wales whilst having one of the ten highest crime detection rates. The aim is to achieve this whilst also being amongst the best ten Forces for public satisfaction and meeting nationally-mandated standards for neighbourhood policing and protective services (organised crime, terrorism, public disorder and roads policing).

The 3-year targets are supplemented with annual milestone targets to keep track of progress.

The Police Authority recognises that any targets must focus the Constabulary on what matters most to the public.

For example, you have told us that despite targets for the speed by which calls are answered you would prefer an assessment of the quality of the call handling service. We have responded by setting the Force satisfaction improvement targets for making contact with the police and the subsequent service received.

OPPORTUNITIES

Independent Members for Police Misconduct Panels

Recruitment has begun for Independent people to sit on Police Misconduct Panels. The deadline for applications, which can be obtained from the Police Authority, is Friday 25th April.

Independent Members of the Police Authority

Recruitment will shortly begin for Independent Members of the Police Authority. if you would like to register your interest or find out more please contact the Police Authority, details on page 4.

10 Things you need to know about your Police Authority

- 1** Your police authority is a group of 19 local people who hold the police to account on behalf of communities.
- 2** Your police authority consults with local communities to find out what you want from your local police.
- 3** Your police authority's job is to make sure that the Chief Constable delivers a police service which balances both national strategic priorities and the concerns of local people.
- 4** Your police authority hires and, if necessary, fires chief constables and senior police officers – and also checks on complaints against police.
- 5** Your police authority publishes an annual plan, based on consultation with local people, setting out the services your police force should deliver in the year ahead, and the targets it should achieve.
- 6** Your police authority has a legal duty to promote equalities and good relations between different groups of people. As part of this, it ensures people know their rights if they are stopped or searched by police.
- 7** Nationally, around 10% of police authority members are from minority ethnic backgrounds and around 30% are women.
- 8** Your police authority holds the police budget. It consults with local people before it sets police council tax to ensure you get value for money.
- 9** Your police authority sets the strategic direction of local policing to ensure that everyone benefits from a better police service.
- 10** Your police authority makes sure the police service does everything it can to keep improving policing for your community.

How to contact the Police Authority

You can contact the Police Authority at

PO Box 229, Exeter, Devon EX2 5YT

Telephone - 01392 268333

Fax - 01392 268330

Or via the website:- www.dcpa.police.uk

How to contact the Police

GENERAL ENQUIRIES (24 HOURS):

08452 777444

*To report crime or criminal damage
To request police advice or attendance
To be connected to a police station*

999

*When life is at risk, Offenders are nearby
Someone is injured, Immediate action is required*

Minicom Users
Crimestoppers
Website

01392 452935
0800 555111
www.devon-cornwall.police.uk