



Devon & Cornwall
Police Authority

NEWS & INFORMATION
2 / 2009

Police Authority Meetings and News

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The Police Authority met on 13th February 2009. At the meeting, members considered a number of issues, which included the following:

Budget and Financial Strategy

Members were required to determine the revenue budget requirement, capital programme and council tax levels for 2009-10, along with the associated financing issues. A report summarising the spending proposals and key issues contained in the Three Year Financial Strategy 2008-09 to 2010 –11 was considered as was a detailed financial analysis.

The aim of the proposed financial strategy was to enhance performance by resourcing and sustaining 3500 police officers and 356 police community support officers, and to provide additional resources to move 200 existing police officers back to the front line by March 2009.

The Force has made efforts to deliver yet more significant savings over three years so reducing the potential impact on council tax;

The budget requirement for 2009/10 was set at £277,348,145.

The increase has been set at 4.94% meaning a property in band D will have an increase of 13.5p per week for the police element of council tax.

Policing Performance targets

It was resolved that the performance priorities for 2009 are neighbourhood policing, detections including Forensics, Human Resources, Protective Services and the Core Development Programme.

The next meeting is on 24th April. This meeting will be webcast and can be watched live on the Internet, can be viewed a day or two afterwards at <http://www.dcpa.public-i.tv/site/>

Devon and Cornwall Consultation Panels

The Police Authority have been active in consultation activities and are keen to expand their approach on how to consult and engage with communities in Devon and Cornwall. Currently we have panels running (one for Devon and one for Cornwall) and these meet at least 3 times a year. The purpose of the panel is to inform the Police Authority on issues/topics that will help to secure and maintain an effective police service to the people of Devon and Cornwall. It is an opportunity for members of the public to meet and discuss policing issues in their community and bring their communities' concerns to the Police Authority. After each meeting a list of concerns are drawn up to be presented at a Community Engagement Committee where the Assistant Chief Constable for Territorial Policing is invited to hear the concerns, comment and if necessary act upon them. The panel will act as a body of consultants that will steer future

consultation/engagement work. The panel will establish a closer link with local communities in order to develop a fuller understanding of the communities the police authority serves. If anyone is interested in becoming a panel member please contact the Police Authority offices on 01392 268333.

Saturday 28th February 2009 saw Exeter's first lesbian, gay, bisexual & trans History Pride.

This free, family friendly event was held in and around Gandy Street, the library and the Phoenix Arts Centre with plenty of activities for everyone. There was a great selection of stalls in the Arts Centre (including a Gay Devon stall of course!), a number of very well attended workshops and talks in the Library, displays and information plus two after parties in Vivo and Vaults. The Police Authority attended the event, as it does with every Pride event held in Devon and Cornwall, to celebrate Pride History month. It was an opportunity for the Authority to engage with members of the public, inform them of our work and sign up people who were interested in attending focus groups. It is anticipated that these focus groups will inform the Police Authority on how it runs its business.

NPIA

The NPIA (National Policing Improvement Agency) has released its monthly environmental scanning journal for March 2009. The Digest consolidates topical and key issues impacting on all areas of policing. The Digest can be found at http://www.npia.police.uk/en/docs/digest_mar_2009.pdf or is available upon request from the Police Authority office.

Browse Aloud

The force web-site now includes a 'Browse Aloud' facility; this is a text –to-speech solution that is designed to assist those with learning difficulties or those with English as a second language. The system works by reading online content aloud, highlighting each word as it is spoken. This facility greatly improves comprehension for those who find reading on line difficult. The system will help ensure that policing services, including the web-site, are accessible to the widest possible audience.

Operation Goodnight

The White Paper Conference Company Ltd 'How to stop Anti-social Behaviour and its root causes and reassure your community' was held in London during January 2009. At the conference the Redruth neighbourhood team gave a presentation on operation Goodnight, the voluntary curfew scheme run in the area during the summer of 2008. The presentation was very favourably received and offered an opportunity for the Force to demonstrate the visionary work being done in this area. The Operation led to a significant reduction in anti- social behaviour and increased public confidence.

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