



Devon & Cornwall
Police Authority

NEWS & INFORMATION
4 / 2009

Police Authority Meetings and News

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The Police Authority last met on 26 June 2009. At the meeting, the Authority appointed Mike Bull as their Chairman. Mike has been an Independent Member of the Police Authority since 2003, having been re-appointed through a public competitive process in April 2007 for a second four-year term. In his first term he served as Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee and is currently Chairman of the Performance Management Committee.

Bryan Preston was elected as Vice-Chairman. Bryan is a Member of Cornwall Council and was appointed by the Council to the Police Authority in July 2005, and again in July 2008.

The Police Authority has recently welcomed five new members to the fold. The new comers join following local authority elections in June and the appointment of two new independent members.

Following a recent recruitment campaign, independent members Jan Stanhope and David Percival have been appointed for a four-year term. Lady Stanhope took up her role on July 1, while Mr Percival begins in October.

Jan has spent most of her working life in the public sector and is a former director of resources in local government. Mr Percival has a background in education and has been a college principal since 1990.

The three other new members of the authority are political appointments following the local elections. Cllr John Hart, the Leader of Devon County Council and a Conservative Member, joins with 20 years of council experience already gained.

While fellow newcomer and Conservative Cllr Patrick Lamshead, from Cornwall Council, represents the Newquay and Tretherras ward after a background in working as an engineer with the Royal Air Force.

Also joining from Cornwall Council is Independent member Cllr Mike Clayton. Mr Clayton has formerly worked as an engineer and sub-post master. Now retired, he has a particular interest in finance management and budget setting.

Police Authority Statement of Accounts 2008-09

The Police Authority approved the Statement of Accounts, including the Annual Governance Statement, and the prudential indicators for the year ending 31st March 2009.

2008/09 had been a challenging year with major changes in resource allocation and human resources to fund enhanced front line policing against the background of major national and international economic and

financial upheaval. The Out turn Report showed a continuation of Devon and Cornwall's long record of excellent financial management with final spending for the year within 0.05% of the target.

Community engagement events

During the summer, the Police Authority has attended a number of community events. In July, the Authority had a stall at the Exeter Respect Festival. The event was very well attended, and was great fun for people of all ages. The purpose of the event was to promote the Authority and to ask the public whether they were confident the police were dealing with antisocial behaviour and crime in their area.

Plymouth Pride was a free, family friendly event was held in and around the Guildhall in Plymouth with plenty of activities for everyone. There was a great selection of stalls in the Guildhall and plenty of music and dancing. The Police Authority attended the event. It was an opportunity for the Authority to engage with members of the public, inform them of our work and to ask the public whether they were confident the police were dealing with antisocial behaviour and crime in their area. Over 100 questionnaires were completed. The responses will be analysed and concerns fed into the authority's policing target setting processes.

Police Authority Meetings 2010/11

The following dates were agreed for the meetings of the Authority in 2010/11. You can watch these meetings live, or as a video archive on the Internet at <http://www.dcpa.public-i.tv/site/>. Alternatively, you are welcome to attend and observe the meetings, which are generally held at Police Headquarters in Exeter.

12 February 2010 at 10.00hrs
23 April 2010 at 10.00hrs
25 June 2010 at 10.00hrs
17 September at 2010 10.00hrs
10 December at 2010 10.00hrs
18 February at 2011 10.00hrs

Independent Custody Visitors

Independent Custody Visiting is the well-established system whereby volunteers attend police stations to check on the treatment of detainees and the conditions in which they are held and that their rights and entitlements are being observed. During 2009, the Authority appointed 13 new volunteers to the scheme following a recruitment drive throughout Devon and Cornwall. Of the 13 new Independent Custody Visitors, three are between the ages of 18 – 21, and one between 30-40 years old. We are particularly pleased to see younger people involved with the scheme. If you are interested in finding out more about Independent Custody Visiting, or would like to get involved, please contact the office.

Performance

According to the Authority's performance statisticians 79% of people in Devon & Cornwall agree 'that the local police and council are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime that matter in this area'. National performance as measured by the British Crime Survey places the Constabulary 10th nationally for this confidence measure. The Authority is closely monitoring performance through its Performance Management Committee.

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