

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority Chairs' Committee
24th July 2009
Open
Report of the Acting Chief Executive

Police Authority Volunteer Policy

Recommendation:

- i. That the Police Authority Volunteer policy be adopted.

Devon & Cornwall Police Authority has benefited from volunteer involvement for over 20 years. Until recently, all our volunteers have been engaged in the Independent Custody Visiting Scheme and as such have been subject to this scheme's policies and procedures.

During the past year, we have formed some valuable relationships with youth volunteering organisations and have benefited from the involvement of students on a voluntary basis. The students have been tasked with specific consultation projects to help us gather data from many diverse sections of our communities. More recently, we have engaged the help of a volunteer in the office to assist with administrative work associated with PALM meetings. This arrangement is not only of benefit to the Authority, but has been specifically created to support a volunteer into paid work.

Best practice in volunteer management requires there to be sound and transparent policies and procedures in place. One of the basic requirements is a volunteer policy. A draft volunteer policy, volunteer agreement and associated working practices are attached for approval. The documents that follow have all undergone a diversity audit.

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Sponsored by: Acting Chief Executive Richard Martin