



Durham Police Authority

# PRESS RELEASE

## Public views sought for communications plan

Durham Police Authority is keen to seek ideas from the public to help determine how local people want to communicate and engage with their new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) from 15 November 2012.

The Government is set to abolish Police Authorities later this year and replace them with directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners. The Government expects that current Police Authorities will oversee the effective transition to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Durham Police Authority has set up a multi-agency Local Transition Board to help it to deliver its Transition Programme. Views from the public about how they would like a new Police and Crime Commissioner to communicate and engage with them on policing matters will help to inform the strategy currently being developed by the Board's Communications and Engagement Transition Project.

The short survey is available online at the Authority's website: [www.durham.gov.uk](http://www.durham.gov.uk) or Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/durhampoliceauthority](http://www.facebook.com/durhampoliceauthority). A survey can also be sent to your home address by calling 0191 3835511 or by email: [durham.pa@durham.gov.uk](mailto:durham.pa@durham.gov.uk).

The closing date for responses is Wednesday 29 February 2012.

Lesley Davies, Chief Executive of Durham Police Authority said: "It is important to give members of the public the opportunity to tell us how they want the new Police and Crime Commissioner to communicate and engage with them in the future. I strongly encourage people from all areas of our communities to participate in the survey as public opinion is fundamental to the development of an effective approach for the new Police and Crime Commissioner".

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

## **About Durham Police Authority**

Durham Police Authority is an independent body responsible for ensuring Durham Constabulary delivers an efficient and effective police service. It is made up of 17 local people who include 9 councillors, 8 members of the public who are the independent members.

The Authority ensures that the Constabulary is accountable to the people of County Durham and Darlington and ensures that citizens have a say in how they are policed.

The Authority is responsible, amongst other matters, for setting the budget for the Constabulary and, following consultation with local communities, mapping out the strategic direction of policing. This includes agreeing policing priorities and setting the Constabulary challenging targets to drive performance higher.

### The Authority's Vision

**“To ensure that policing in County Durham and Darlington is fair, effective and visible”**

### The Authority's Mission

**“To be the effective voice of our communities in securing the delivery of high quality policing by:**

- Exercising strong & effective leadership
- Engaging positively with communities to build confidence in local policing
- Strengthening partnership working
- Promoting equality, tolerance & respect for human rights
- Scrutinising and challenging police performance to secure continuous improvement
- Scrutinising and challenging business systems and processes to ensure effective use of resources

For further information or comment, please contact Durham Police Authority:

Tel: 0191 3836471

Email: [durham.pa@durham.gov.uk](mailto:durham.pa@durham.gov.uk)

Website: [www.durham-pa.gov.uk](http://www.durham-pa.gov.uk)

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/DPAuthority>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/durhampoliceauthority>