



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

23 July 2010

Statement re letters to Durham Constabulary Police Staff

Commenting upon the letters which are being issued to Durham Constabulary Police Staff, Mr Peter Thompson, Chair of Durham Police Authority said:

"Every member of the Authority was devastated that they found themselves in a situation where they had to approve this action.

The reality is that we are in a critical financial situation which we anticipate will only get worse in October when the government is expected to announce further substantial cuts as part of its Comprehensive Spending Review. We also expect further cuts beyond that date.

On a personal note, I have the utmost sympathy with every employee who has been issued with a letter but would emphasize that the letter is only notification that posts are potentially at risk of compulsory redundancy. The notifications (of which there are 1,160) have been issued to all Police Staff and no letters have been sent to Police Officers".

Notes to Editors

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:

Nyama Johnson, Policy & Communications Officer, Durham Police Authority

Tel: 0191 3836471

Email: durham.pa@durham.gov.uk

Website: www.durham-pa.gov.uk