



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

Public to have their say on local policing in Belmont

Normally it is the police who ask the questions, but Durham Police Authority is turning the tables by inviting questions from members of the public. Durham Police Authority is committed to consulting and involving the community to help inform and shape the direction, priorities and plans of policing in County Durham and Darlington.

The Police Authority is inviting you to attend our 'Your Police, Your Say' session on Wednesday 15 September 2010 at Belmont Community Centre from 9.00 a.m.—10.00 a.m. where there will be the opportunity to discuss local policing issues and priorities with Members of the Police Authority and the Chief Constable and his staff.

Also, at various public events throughout the summer, the Police Authority, in partnership with Durham Constabulary, have asked members of the public to fill in a survey (with the chance to win an Ipod) about how safe they feel in their community and how anti-social behaviour is being dealt with by Durham Constabulary; the results are in with an overwhelming positive response. Due to the amount of completed surveys, two winners, instead of one, will be selected at random at Belmont on 15 September, each to win an Ipod Touch.

The surgery will be followed by a meeting of the Police Authority and a warm invitation is extended to you to attend the open session of the meeting when the Police Authority discusses its general business.

Mr Peter Thompson, Chairman of Durham Police Authority said

"We are always looking at a variety of ways we can consult even further with you and propose to hold most of our meetings in the community that we represent. As local tax payers, you invest in the police services for County Durham and Darlington, so we feel that your views should be taken into account when we make our decisions.

"During the last two years we have held meetings throughout the whole of County Durham and several in Darlington and we are open for other suggestions for meetings to be held out in our wider communities."

For further information about 'Your Police, Your Say' Sessions please contact us at:

Durham Police Authority
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UL
Email: durham.pa@durham.gov.uk
Telephone: 0191 3835511
www.durham-pa.gov.uk

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
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/home.php?sk=lf>
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/DPAAuthority>