



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

POLICE BUDGET TALKS

Members of Durham Police Authority have met to consider the implications of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.

Officers reported that funding from Central Government will reduce by 20%, phased over the next four years, a real term cut of £17.38m. This is further compounded by a proposed Council Tax freeze next year. In addition, the Authority's capital expenditure faces significant pressure following a 37.5% reduction in the Government's capital funding allocation for the Home Office.

Peter Thompson, Chair of the Police Authority said,

"Managing cuts of this scale is very challenging for the Authority and Constabulary. It is now more important than ever that our diminishing resources are managed strategically, getting value for money in all areas of spend. The Authority's proactive approach to this issue has been praised by our External Auditors and we are working on proposals to shape the 2011/12 Budget within the Government's constraints".

Mr Thompson went on to say, "These are very challenging times, but residents of County Durham and Darlington can be assured that frontline policing continues to be a priority for the Authority".

For further information about 'Your Police, Your Say' Sessions please

Contact us

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: Katy Linnett, Durham Police Authority

Tel: 0191 3835511

Email: durham.pa@durham.gov.uk

Website: www.durham-pa.gov.uk

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

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