



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

LOCAL BOBBIES RECOGNISED FOR THEIR POLICING EFFORTS

Two Durham Constabulary police officers recently nominated for the Jane's Police Review National Gala Awards have had their local achievements recognised at a meeting of Durham Police Authority on 10 December 2010.

Mr Peter Thompson, Chairman of Durham Police Authority presented the two officers with a commemorative award and congratulated them for their hard work and dedication to local policing which earned them their nominations for these prestigious national awards.

Community Police Officer PC David Williamson, based at Barnard Castle, is a neighbourhood beat officer for East Teesdale and Gaunless Valley. Burglary, criminal damage and speeding are issues PC Williamson has been proactive in resolving this year and to tackle anti-social behaviour, PC Williamson has set up a successful diversionary scheme to help reward young people.

Community Support Officer Julie-Ann Collingwood from Spennymoor was also congratulated by Mr Thompson on Friday for her hard work and efforts in Ferryhill for successfully resolving issues with littering, bad language and under-age drinking near a residential home. PCSO Collingwood actively worked with the young people, finding other activities for them to be involved in and worked closely with the local youth club.

Mr Thompson said:

"Both officers have shown dedication and commitment to policing in our area and I am delighted the efforts have been recognised by a national nomination. I congratulate both officers and thank them on behalf of Durham Police Authority and the members of the public for their continued hard work and support in policing our local area."

The Jane's Police Review Awards is a prestigious event recognising and rewarding outstanding achievement in community policing across the full spectrum of a police career.

Notes to Editors

***Please find attached photograph** (L-R Peter Thompson, Chair - Durham Police Authority, PC David Williamson, PCSO Julie-Ann Collingwood and Jon Stoddart, Chief Constable.)

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

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