



Durham Police Authority

# PRESS RELEASE

## Police Authority on Cost-Savings Mission

Value for Money continues to be an area of ongoing focus for local policing, Durham Police Authority announced yesterday.

A number of reports on collaboration with partners and productivity improvement opportunities were debated at a recent meeting of the Police Authority's Business Planning and Productivity Committee.

Durham Constabulary's Assistant Chief Officer Gary Ridley said:

"For a long time now the Authority and Constabulary have been looking for cost-saving initiatives across different areas of the Force and I am pleased to report that positive progress has been made in relation to the 2010 Value for Money profile areas. These will be subsequently impacted on by the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. That said, there is opportunity to identify further efficiencies in future years".

The Police Authority also recognises how continued collaboration is a high priority for delivering cost savings and better outcomes for local communities. Members agreed a report at the same committee on 7 March 2011 taking forward the agenda for collaboration with existing and new partners.

In December 2010, the Authority agreed that there was further scope to develop an ambitious, but realistic programme based on a robust business case to identify ways of sharing further policing resources in the future, aimed at delivering more for less.

Mr Peter Thompson, Chairman of Durham Police Authority said:

"Collaboration and saving money for the taxpayer has never been so important. The current economic climate means that public spending is under increased pressure. Working with new and existing partners and the ongoing scrutiny of how money is spent on policing is paramount to the Police Authority and the reports to the Committee meeting today demonstrate what the Authority and its Force are capable of when we apply ourselves".

**ENDS**

### 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 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>