



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

Re-appointment of Chair of Durham Police Authority

Mr Peter Thompson was unanimously reappointed as Chair of Durham Police Authority at the Police Authority Annual Meeting on 10 June 2011. This will be his fifth term of office.

Mr Peter Thompson said: "This is potentially my last term as Chair of Durham Police Authority, if the Coalition Government's plans go ahead to abolish police authorities nationally and replace them with Police and Crime Commissioners from May 2012.

"It is a tremendous privilege to continue to serve in the position as Chair following the unanimous show of support from my fellow colleagues. I am very proud to be part of an organisation that ensures County Durham and Darlington remains one of the safest places to live, work and visit in the whole of the Country".

With the current uncertainty surrounding police reform, all existing Members of Durham Police Authority will continue to represent local people for another term, maintaining the current mix of 9 elected councillors and 8 politically independent Members to scrutinise and monitor the performance of Durham Constabulary.

In light of the Government's proposals for the reform of policing governance the Authority agreed in October 2010 to review its own governance arrangements to balance future needs within the Authority's existing resources. On Friday the Authority agreed to maintain its governance of policing through four main strand committees, which themselves have a number of Sub-committees and Panels), chaired by the following Members:

- Mr Roger Humphries (Chair of Business Planning and Productivity Committee)
- Mr Norman Vaulks (Chair of Effective Policing Delivery Committee)
- Ms Kathryn Larkin-Bramley (Chair of Finance, Audit & Resources Committee)
- Mrs Elsie Davies (Chair of Partnership and Engagement Committee)

Mr Thompson said: "Members of Durham Police Authority work hard to ensure policing is governed thoroughly and fairly through our committees, holding the police force to account and listening to the views of local people".

ENDS

New Group photograph enclosed.

Notes to Editors

About Durham Police Authority

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:

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