



## Durham Police Authority

# PRESS RELEASE

### **Durham Police Authority supports National Citizen Service Pilots**

Members of Durham Police Authority have agreed to support the Safe in Tees Valley Initiative as part of the National Citizen Service Pilot.

The National Citizen Service was introduced by the Coalition Government last year. The intention of the Service is to promote, a more unified society by mixing people from different backgrounds, by supporting the transition into adulthood for young people and by enabling young people to work together to create projects in their own communities.

The Service is aimed at those young people who have finished their Year 11 at school and will take place in the summer holidays before they move onto further education, employment or training.

Safe in Tees Valley (the prevention arm of Cleveland Police and Cleveland Fire and Rescue) were successful in round one with a bid of 1,000 places which are being shared across the four Cleveland local authorities. Recently Safe in Tees Valley have met with officers from Durham Constabulary, the Fire and Rescue Service and Darlington Borough Council to ascertain if Darlington would like to be included in an extended pilot bid for 2012.

Durham Police Authority and Durham Constabulary have agreed to support the pilot with £1,500 of funding. This will provide 250 places on the National Citizen Service Pilot 2012, in the Darlington area.

Peter Thompson, Chairman of Durham Police Authority said:

“As a Police Authority, we fully support this scheme. It is an excellent opportunity for Darlington to become part of one of the 32 pilots, it will bring learning into County Durham and Darlington ahead of 2013, when the pilot is intended to be rolled out nationally. The scheme will provide 250 young people in Darlington with the opportunity to meet other young people from different backgrounds, to learn something about themselves and about the communities they live in”

**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 be the effective voice of our communities in securing delivery of the highest quality policing.”**

Our mission

**“Working in partnership to ensure fair, effective and visible policing”**

The Authority aims to: -

- Exercise strong and effective leadership in partnership working
- Engage positively with our Citizens and Communities to build confidence in local policing.
- Promote equality, tolerance and respect for human rights.
- Scrutinise and challenge police performance & procedures to secure continuous improvement
- Ensure Effective use of resources

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