



Durham Police Authority

# PRESS RELEASE

## **Durham Constabulary well on track to deliver despite Government cuts**

Durham Police Authority and Durham Constabulary have been praised by Government Inspectors for their effective forward planning in delivering 'more for less' and maintaining public confidence.

Following the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review in October 2010 in which 20% cuts were made for central government police grant funding across all 43 forces in England and Wales by 2014/15, Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabularies (HMIC) inspected Durham earlier this year as part of the 'Valuing the Police: Preparedness Inspection'.

The outcome of the inspection was presented to Police Authority Members at the Authority's Business Planning & Productivity Committee earlier today. In terms of financial challenges, HMIC recognised that although Durham Constabulary is facing a £24m cash reduction to its budget over the next 4 years, the Police Authority and Constabulary "have clearly showed that they understand the scale of the challenge facing them and have considered a range of options in developing a plan to meet it – This has placed the Constabulary in a strong position".

Mr. Peter Thompson, Chair of Durham Police Authority said: "Durham Police Authority is constantly looking at ways to increase productivity and value for money whilst at the same time delivering the best possible police service. I am delighted that the HMIC recognise the hard work of both the Police Authority and the Constabulary and I have no doubt this will continue during the coming years".

**ENDS**

### **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

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