



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

Police Community Support Officers go back to school for lunch children

Police Community Support Officers in Durham have been taking the time to engage with young people by sitting down with them for school dinners.

PCSO's Debbie Sadler-Watson and Malcolm Knox joined children at Framwellgate Moor Primary School to have lunch, answer their questions and talk to them about their role in policing.

Cllr Lucy Hovvels who is a Member of Durham Police Authority and Durham County Council's Cabinet Member for Safer, Healthier Communities also attended, she said:

"Staying for school meals gives children the chance to sit together at meal times and develop their social skills, this school visit was an excellent chance for the Police Community Support Officers to build on relationships between the police and young people and also to ask them about their thoughts on the area and what affects them"

Peter Thompson, Chair of Durham Police Authority said:

"Police Community Support Officers are key to how we engage with communities in County Durham and Darlington. They play an integral part in delivering the best possible policing service, working alongside police officers to help make the area a safer place to live, work, and visit"

ENDS

Notes to Editors

**** Photograph attached ****

L-R Kacey Nicholson, PCSO Debbie Sadler-Watson, Alex Ferguson,
Headteacher - Mrs Smith, PCSO Malcolm Knox, Cllr Lucy Hovvels, Grace
Burnip

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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