



Durham Police Authority

PRESS RELEASE

Friday 12 December

Durham Police Authority has been given a clean bill of health over use of Police resources

The Audit Commission, an independent national watchdog, has expressed that Durham Police Authority and its Constabulary is performing well and has put into place proper arrangements for securing efficiency and effectiveness in its use of police resources.

The Audit Commission's assessment looked at how the Police Authority and Constabulary manage and use its financial resources. The auditor reported that

"Value for money is assessed as performing well. Overall costs, including unit costs for key services, are in line with other Authorities and Forces. There is clear information on costs and the relationship between costs and quality of service. Performance has improved across all areas."

This year the Audit Commission have introduced a number of new criteria and the impressive score represents a considerable achievement for both the Authority and Constabulary.

Police Authority Chairman Mr Peter Thompson said

"This report is excellent and reflects all of the hard work of both the Police Authority and the Constabulary. The Police Authority prides itself on ensuring value for money and will continue to improve the services that it provides to the public"

Durham's Chief Constable Jon Stoddart welcomed the Audit Commission's verdict.

He said" This is an excellent report and reflects well on the leadership and commitment of the Police Authority members and officers'.

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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