

POLICING IN NORTH HERTS

Crime in North Herts fell by 14.9% between January and December 2009, significantly more than any other district in Hertfordshire - reinforcing the fact that residents and businesses are less likely to fall victim to crime than almost any other place in the county. Challenges during 2010-2011 will include maintaining those reductions whilst continuing to address crimes of burglary against local businesses, garages and sheds - which have shown an upward trend over the last two years.

- > Police in North Herts have improved the resilience of rural communities through numerous partnership operations using Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology. A Rural Intelligence Gathering System (RIGS) will be introduced in 2010-2011 to reduce the time it takes to distribute intelligence among key stakeholders. Six new specialist rural Special Constables have been trained to handle this system to maximise visibility across rural areas.
- > Partnership work alongside town centre management, rangers, the North Herts Crime Prevention Panel, retailers and Pubwatches continues to make the day and night-time economies safer, while test-purchase operations are conducted at licensed premises. Awareness campaigns such as 'Be Safe' and 'Know Your Limits' have been implemented, together with targeted shoplifting patrols to improve safety and reduce crime in town centres.
- > Dispersal Orders have been introduced to prevent and maintain the low levels of anti-social behaviour in and around Letchworth Garden City and Hitchin town centres. Initial evaluation indicates a positive impact with incident levels and crimes falling by as much as 38%.
- > The vast majority of children and young people in the District continue to behave responsibly. However, at locations with higher perceived levels of anti-social behaviour amongst youths, multi-agency arrangements have been made to provide sports, dance and other engagement opportunities. Combined with tailored health and wellbeing advice, the 'Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour' and 'Summer Youthoria' programmes have provided positive experiences for the younger generation whilst reducing reports of anti-social behaviour.

CONTACTS IN NORTH HERTS

Hertfordshire Constabulary

Chief Inspector for North Herts: Geoff Camp

Neighbourhood Inspectors: Simon Tabert (Hitchin) and Jason Thorne (Letchworth, Baldock & Royston)

Neighbourhood Policing Teams in North Herts:

Baldock	Knebworth & Codicote
Chesfield	Letchworth East
Hitchin Bearton	Letchworth Grange
Hitchin Highbury	Letchworth South East
Hitchin Offa & Hoo	Letchworth South West & Wilbury
Hitchin Oughton & Cadwell	Royston & Baldock Rural
Hitchin Priory	Royston Heath & Meridian
Hitchin Walsworth	Royston Palace
Kimpton & Hitchwood	

Call 0845 33 00 222 to be directed to your local Neighbourhood Inspector, Constable or Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). To find out the names of the people in your local Neighbourhood Policing Team, visit www.herts.police.uk or call the telephone number above. Email: contactus@herts.pnn.police.uk

Hertfordshire Police Authority

Leahoe House, Pegs Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG13 8DE
Tel: 01992 556600
Email: enquiries.hpa@herts.pnn.police.uk
Website: www.hertspa.org

The local Police Authority Lead (PAL) member for North Herts is:

Kevin McGetrick - Tel: 01707 335599
Email: kevin.mcgetrick.hpa@herts.pnn.police.uk

All enquiries about payments, rebates or benefits should be made to your local district or borough council (the telephone number can be found on your council tax bill). The amount of money you will pay for policing will be shown as the police precept on your council tax bill.

For Police Authority budget information call 01707 354252 or write to the address above.

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DPPJ 12274



The services we provide and the money it costs.

POLICING IN NORTH HERTS

2010 – 2011



HERTFORDSHIRE
POLICE AUTHORITY

www.hertspa.org

THE COST OF POLICING HERTFORDSHIRE

Hertfordshire Constabulary is one of the top performing forces in the country and consistently delivers results - a 20% drop in crime in the last five years and detections at an all-time high.

The Authority gets about 60% of its funding from Government grants but Hertfordshire has missed out in recent years. The formula used to allocate the money shows we should receive more but, this coming year alone, Government is withholding £4.1m of the grants due. This leaves a shortfall against the amount we need to maintain our high standard of policing.

To fill this gap, and to minimise Council Tax increases, we have previously used money from our reserves. However, these are now at a lower level and the amount we can draw from them is limited. We now face unprecedented financial pressures. The public have told us they want us to maintain and improve police services but this could only be achieved by a substantial increase in Council Tax – not something the Authority felt was reasonable, given the wider financial climate.

We have, therefore, increased Council Tax by 3.5% (just under 10p a week), which means someone living in a Band D property will pay £147.82 (£2.84 a week). This is well below the national average for shire forces. Our Net Budget will be £190.8m, a rise of £5.9m, with nationally agreed pay increases accounting for more than two-thirds of that. We will have 3,951 officers and staff - about 100 fewer than currently. The highest ever level of savings will be made to balance the budget and enable £0.9m investment in priority areas such as neighbourhood policing and responding to anti-social behaviour and serious and organised crime.

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM	2009/10 (£m)	2010/11 (£m)
Central Government Funding	121.1	124.8
Council Tax	63.4	65.9
Collection Fund	0.4	0.1
NET BUDGET	184.9	190.8
Fees and Charges	3.1	3.5
Other Government Grants	13.2	13.3
Partner Funding for PCSOs	1.8	1.8
Use of Reserves	1.9	1.3
GROSS BUDGET	204.9	210.7
HOW IT IS SPENT	2009/10 (£m)	2010/11 (£m)
Police Officers and Staff	171.4	174.2
Supplies, Contracted Services, Premises and Vehicles	32.4	35.4
Police Authority	1.1	1.1
TOTAL	204.9	210.7

Giving you value for money

We pride ourselves on providing good value for money – something recognised nationally in recent independent inspections.

To do that the Authority sets demanding efficiency targets that either deliver the same or higher levels of service for less money or more or better services for the same cost. Those targets are consistently exceeded, with an estimated £14.5m savings achieved over the two years up to 31 March 2010, including £8.7m in 2008/09. This is the equivalent to £33 per Band D property (national average £54).

We are now well on course to achieving our 2008/11 target of over £20m, which is in line with the same high level of savings achieved in the previous three years.

You said, we listened, we did...

The largest single concern you have raised with us over the past year has been rowdy and anti-social behaviour – it's what most calls to the police are about and one of the most common concerns brought up at public meetings and in surveys.

In response, the Authority has tasked the Constabulary to place an even greater emphasis on tackling the local concerns that affect your everyday lives, in particular, anti-social behaviour and anti-social, and often dangerous, motoring.

To deliver this, we have pledged our on-going support for more visible and accessible policing and, despite significant funding reductions, have committed substantial resources to ensure our Neighbourhood Policing Teams remain at the heart of policing in the county.

At the same time, we recognise the need to maintain our covert capability to tackle serious and organised crime. These crimes can take extensive resources and time to bring offenders to justice. You may not be aware of them at a local level but crimes such as drug trafficking can impact on burglary, theft and robbery, as criminals try to fund their illegal drug habits.

You can find details in our Policing Plan 2010/13 about all our priorities and the targets that we will use to measure success on our website, or ring our office for a copy - see back page for details.

www.hertspa.org