

POLICING IN ST ALBANS

Police and partners in St Albans have been hugely successful this year in reducing the number of crimes committed across the district. Crime in general fell by 8.7% between April 2009 and January 2010 – with 611 fewer victims compared to the previous year. In addition, the number of crimes detected increased by 2%, compared to 34% last year.

- > Vehicle crime across the district fell by 20.6% during the same time period, with 210 fewer people having cars stolen, broken into or damaged.
- > Damage offences fell by 14.8% last year, meaning that 179 fewer people have had property damaged. Police also saw a reduction in violent crime with 890 fewer victims of assault (a reduction of 7.3%). Furthermore, there was a 21% reduction in personal robberies and domestic violence detection rates rose from 53.1% to 56.2%.
- > Police in St Albans have been driving forward 'Operation Guardian' to detect and deter burglars operating in the area, and at the same time showing local residents how they can secure their properties against burglars.
- > Last year, the St Albans Community Safety Partnership funded a vehicle fitted with Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology. The vehicle is used daily on operations focused on tackling local and cross-border crime.
- > Police and partners have been working closely with Wheathampstead Parish Council to set up a police office in the village to deliver services more effectively to rural communities and offer a new patrol base for local officers. Additional CCTV cameras were introduced in hotspot areas to assist in preventing and detecting incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- > Maintaining reductions in the numbers of residential burglaries remains a challenge. Tactics have proved effective, yet police in the district will need to constantly review and adapt these to stay ahead of would-be burglars.
- > The safety of St Albans residents will continue to be a priority during 2010-2011. Further mobile police station surgeries will be organised, enabling residents to have a say in how their local police respond to policing issues. Community safety road shows will take place offering residents the opportunity to obtain crime prevention, community safety and anti-social behaviour advice and find out more about Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

CONTACTS IN ST ALBANS

Hertfordshire Constabulary

Chief Inspector for St Albans: Richard Hann

Neighbourhood Inspector: Ruth Dodsworth

Neighbourhood Policing Teams in St Albans:

Harpden North & East	St Albans North
Harpden South & West	St Albans South
London Colney & Colney Heath	St Albans West
Redbourn	St Stephens & Park Street
St Albans Central	Wheathamspead
St Albans East	

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 St Albans is:

Bengie Walden - Tel: 01582 462067

Email: bengiewalden@supanet.com

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.

Per la traduzione, chiamare il numero 01438 737555

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REMEMBER IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL 999

DPPJ 12274



The services we provide and the money it costs.

POLICING IN ST ALBANS

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