

POLICING IN WATFORD

Crime fell again in Watford between 2009 and 2010 by a further 5%. The joint work of the Safer Watford Partnership, coupled with some of the highest detection rates in the county, has ensured that Watford continues to be one of the safest places to live, work and visit.

- > As with other districts in the county, burglary is a concern for the communities of Watford and tackling burglary will remain a priority. The 'Partnership Protected Area' initiative launched in 2009 and delivered by the Safer Watford Partnership, will assist greatly in achieving this priority. The pilot ward, Stanborough, has already seen a 54% reduction in burglaries. Across the whole of the Borough, burglary offences have fallen by 22%. Focus will be placed on working to prevent further crimes from occurring, which will be greatly assisted through the use of funding that has been secured to deliver the Partnership Protected Area initiative to three further wards in Watford over the next two years.
- > Vehicle crime has also been identified as an area of concern and targeted responses by Watford's Neighbourhood Policing Teams have resulted in a 63% fall in vehicle crime in Woodside and a 31% reduction in Oxhey. Across Watford in general, police have been working in partnership to achieve a 17% decrease in vehicle crime.
- > Community engagement will be a strong focus during 2010-2011 to prevent and detect crime. Neighbourhood Policing Teams will be focusing on the National Policing Pledge to ensure that they hear, understand and take action on the issues that affect the residents of Watford. This, combined with their recently revised approach to Neighbourhood Watch and commitment to the Partnership Protected Area scheme, will result in Neighbourhood Policing Teams providing the residents and businesses of Watford with a service that addresses their needs.
- > Anti-social behaviour continues to be a priority and police, along with partners, will focus on effectively identifying and tackling neighbourhood concerns.

CONTACTS IN WATFORD

Hertfordshire Constabulary

Chief Inspector for Watford: John Dempsey-Brench

Neighbourhood Inspector: Chris Bryce

Neighbourhood Policing Teams in Watford:

Callowland & Leggatts

Holywell & Vicarage

Meriden & Tudor

Oxhey

Park & Nascot

Watford Central

Woodside & Stanborough

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 Watford is:

Derek Scudder - **Tel:** 01923 492546

Email: derek.scudder@hertscc.gov.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.

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 WATFORD

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