

PRESS RELEASE



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HERTFORDSHIRE INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITORS RECEIVE AWARDS FOR LONG SERVICE AT PRESTIGIOUS CEREMONY

Hertfordshire Police Authority presented much-deserved Long Service awards to some of its Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) at the 3rd Annual Hertfordshire Independent Custody Visitors Conference, held on Thursday 8 October.

Fifteen ICVs received awards at the conference, held at Beales Hotel in Hatfield, who have been voluntarily dedicating their time to the scheme for over 10 years and in some cases over 20 years.

Anne Wright, Hertfordshire Police Authority Lead Member for the ICV Scheme said: "Independent Custody Visitors are the 'eyes and ears' of the Police Authority on custody matters. They provide a vital link between the community, the Authority and the Constabulary, and ensure persons detained in the county's custody suites are treated appropriately.

"I would like to express my gratitude to all ICVs who take time out of their busy lifestyles to voluntarily take on this role."

The event, which was hosted by Anne Wright, also welcomed guest speakers County Councillor Richard Smith, Vice Chair of the Police Authority, Dr Mike Duggan, a Force Medical Examiner and Inspector Barbra Campbell of the Constabulary's Criminal Justice Unit.

The '**Over 20 Years of Service**' awards, which were proudly presented by County Councillor Richard Smith, went to Keith Cockman and Kath McLoughlin.

Richard went on to present the '**Over 15 Years of Service**' awards to Allan Bayle, Robin Cherney, Lionel Devonish, Philip Rosen, Simon Rubner and Michael Taylor. It was announced that the award would also be given to Althea McLean and Arthur McLean, who were unable to attend the conference.

Awards for **Over 10 Years of Service** will also be given to Bob Lloyd, Linda Mendez, Robert McGregor, Lillian Strange and Jane Ware as they too were unable to attend the conference.

Richard also thanked all ICVs for their efforts.

ICVs voluntarily help the Police Authority to monitor the welfare of people detained in police cells across the county, and ensure that they are treated fairly and with respect. They talk in confidence to detainees and report any problems or concerns back to the Constabulary and the Police Authority.

For further information or to volunteer yourself please contact Emily Anderson, Hertfordshire Police Authority, on 01992 555628 or email emily.anderson.hpa@herts.pnn.police.uk

Notes to Editors:

Hertfordshire Police Authority is made up of 17 local people comprising a mixture of councillors and independent members. It is responsible for:

- Managing all police property
- Setting the budget for the police force, including raising local taxes for policing
- Scrutinising and managing local police performance
- Setting the strategic direction for policing locally, deciding local priorities for policing and setting the Constabulary challenging targets to drive performance higher

- Consulting and engaging with local communities to find out what they want the local police to tackle
- Appointing (and, if necessary, dismissing) the Chief Constable and senior police officers