



## LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

# PRESS INFORMATION

### **Regional survey lifts the lid on business crime**

Businesses across the East Midlands are set to have their voices heard following the launch of a pioneering police survey to measure the impact of crime on trade in the region.

The new venture, which is being coordinated by regional police representatives from Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Police Authorities, will be the first time Police Authorities have come together collectively to address the needs of the business community and learn more about their priorities for policing.

The project, which is being supported by the East Midland Business Crime Forum, is part of an overall drive by the Police Authorities involved to consult and understand the requirements of their wider communities, from residents who live in the area to those who run businesses.

Businesses offer employment and services to the public and have a significant effect on the wellbeing of a town or city, especially economically. The survey has been drawn up to provide businesses with a louder voice on policing issues and identify areas where greater support is needed.

The results of the survey will be used to help the Police Authorities make decisions about resource allocation in their specific area and future policing services.

Jean Mountain, chairman of the East Midland Business Crime Forum, said: "This is the first time Police Authorities in the East Midlands have united in this way to encourage greater feedback from the business community and I am confident that together we can get a deeper understanding of the hopes and fears of our businesses and their experience of policing so that we can ensure future services are in line with expectations.

“Through promoting better relationships with businesses in the East Midlands we can deliver stronger crime prevention advice and develop strategies to protect their commercial premises from future criminal activities.”

The survey, which will be available online, asks businesses which crime categories are of most concern to them including fraud, burglary, anti-social behaviour and theft of and from vehicles. It asks businesses whether they have ever been a victim of crime and for details about the offence and whether it was an isolated incident. In addition, businesses are asked about whether they were satisfied with the service they received from the police, and whether they knew who their local PCSO or police officer was.

Wendy Martin, of Leicestershire Police Authority, said: “Crimes against businesses not only cost financially but also have a damaging impact on economic growth and the future prosperity of local areas.

“This survey is just one way we hope to increase confidence among our business community, ensuring that businesses understand that their views are important and are being heard. As well as strengthening our links with the business sector and delivering the crime prevention message, we also need the business sector to help us set the strategic goals which will reduce their chances of becoming a victim in the future.

“Policing is now very much community-focused with an emphasis on tackling the localised, recurrent problems which affect our neighbourhoods, including businesses, but we need their support and feedback to deliver the services they expect.”

The survey is being distributed to businesses across the East Midlands on a pilot basis. Information will be compiled on an individual area basis, however regional comparative data will also be available. The findings will be used by the Police Authorities, and indeed the forthcoming Police and Crime Commissioners, as plans and priorities are developed for policing in the future. It will also be shared with local authority partners as well as Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

See the survey at [www.leics.police.uk/PABusinessSurvey](http://www.leics.police.uk/PABusinessSurvey)

Ends

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