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LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

POLICE AUTHORITY HOLDS SPECIAL MEETING TO CONSIDER CORONER'S COURT IMPLICATIONS

(13 October 2009) Leicestershire Police Authority today held a special meeting to examine the policing matters raised by the deaths of Fiona Pilkington and Frankie Hardwick in 2007. Members of the Authority questioned the Chief Constable and his team for over 4 hours.

Speaking after the meeting, Chairman of the Authority, Byron Rhodes, said:

"It is of the utmost importance that the public has confidence that, as an independent body, the Police Authority rigorously oversees the Constabulary on their behalf.

"This is a tragic case and the Constabulary has made clear that its response to this family in 2007 was not what it should have been. It is now our primary concern that lessons are learned and embedded in day to day policing practice. Today's meeting is part of a continuing process for the Police Authority to understand, challenge and monitor these improvements."

..... ENDS

1. Mr Rhodes' photograph can be downloaded from the Leicestershire Police Authority website:http://www.leics-pa.police.uk/about_members.php
2. Leicestershire Police Authority monitors the Leicestershire Constabulary, which polices the area of Leicester City, Leicestershire and Rutland.
3. Police Authorities are independent bodies made up of local people. Police Authorities hold the Police Force to account on behalf of local communities.
4. Local Police Authorities along with the Home Secretary and Chief Officers of Police make up the tripartite relationship which is responsible for the governance of policing in England and Wales.
5. For any queries arising from this media release please contact Robert Swinfield on 0116 229 8980 or via police.authority@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk