

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2008/09

DAVID BILL

During the last 12 months I have continued to give a high priority to attending and participating on the main body of the Police Authority and on the committees on which I serve, i.e. the Finance & General Purposes, the Consultation and Communications, Standards, Contact Management Panel and the Remuneration Committee.

Although I also serve on the Regional Assembly, the County Council and Borough Council which means that dates often clash I have managed to attend about 80% of all scheduled meetings.

The main emphasis of my contribution has been to try to drive crime down by ensuring that the greatest possible cooperation exists between the Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council on which I serve as its leader and the Crime & Disorder Partnership on which I serve as a representative of the Police Authority.

Since taking over both roles two years ago I have striven hard to ensure that the partnership between Council, Police and other agencies produces real results on the ground. To give a practical example, from my knowledge of the effects of the misuse of alcohol gathered from working with representatives of the voluntary and statutory bodies concerned, I have assisted in steering through a proposal to give police the powers to confiscate alcohol in parks and other sensitive areas across Hinckley.

At the beginning of the year, the Borough Council was awarded an "excellent" rating uniquely amongst the district councils in Leicestershire and this was in no small part as a result of the close working between council and police and the positive results in terms of crime reduction that we were able to demonstrate.

Again, with emphasis on local activity, we have jointly gained Beacon Status for tackling re-offending and later a further Beacon Status for work with the after-dark economy. Together we have made Hinckley town centre a safer place for people at night. This latter award recognised the expanding role of the voluntary role in the form of street pastors. Alongside Inspector Martyn Ball I attended a moving service at the Salvation Army when a further tranche of street pastors were commissioned in order to expand the service already being provided.

One key theme in Hinckley & Bosworth has been the creation of community houses in areas of deprivation. By combining stretched resources, council, police and other agencies are now expanding out of Wykin and Earl Shilton and we will shortly see a new community house in Barwell. I attend and participate in activities whenever I can and I firmly believe that crime is being driven down as a direct result of these initiatives.

Finally, we have refreshed this year's local priorities and will be tackling anti-social behaviour, violent crime, acquisitive crime and substance misuse harm reduction. Ron Grantham continues to play an enthusiastic role as does David Cope the Chairman of the CDRP.

It has been a real pleasure to work alongside the local LPU Commander, Inspector Martyn Ball. I think we have a good team here in Hinckley.

David Bill 11th April 2009