

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2008/09

WENDY MARTIN

When I first joined the Police Authority I wanted to find out about how someone became a police officer. I attended Recruitment Seminars at a mosque, St. Philip's church and temple. I followed this up by having regular meetings with the recruitment team to find out how many people had actually applied to be a police officer as a result of the Recruitment Seminar. I then found out about each stage of the recruitment – assessment centre, fitness, vetting, health checks and final interview board – and observed each of the stages. I also found out about what happens after an applicant has been accepted. I visited De Montfort University and the police officers responsible for ensuring that candidates complete their training and go on to be confirmed police officers.

I am a member of the Community and Consultation Committee and represent the Police Authority on the Market Harborough Community Safety Partnership. I have attended courses and publicity events to raise the profile of the partnership. I have been part of the group which put together the strategic assessment to identify our priorities for the next year. I have also attended training events and been part of the group which put together a new structure for the partnership to make it more effective. I am now chair of that partnership.

As a member of the Community and Consultation Committee I have attended many events to try and obtain the views of members of the public. I have also attended Police Authority consultation evenings at Belgrave, Hamilton, New Parks and Beaumont Leys.

I became the Authority representative on the Resource and Demand Board. The purpose of this Board was to identify ways we could improve our service. Part of that work has been to fit laptops in all cars and supply officers with Blackberrys. I have monitored how these have been used and how they have improved the service to members of the public. I have also attended workshops on the Flanagan reforms.

I am the lead member for children and young people. I have been in contact with every secondary school in the force area. Part of this work has been to find out the views of young people and make sure that they are taken into account. I met with young people to get their views on our proposed questionnaire. I have visited school councils and youth workers in the city, Leicestershire and Rutland. I also attended a conference on "Hear by Right" and a training course on safety. I also visit the Child Abuse Unit to ensure that the force is doing all they can to protect children and young people.

I am linked to Beaumont Leys LPU and Market Harborough LPU. I have regular meetings with the LPU commanders and I have also spent time out on patrol with officers so I understand their role in neighbourhood policing.

I am also the chair of the Publications Panel. The Police Authority has to publish local policing summaries and also a three year policing plan and the Publications Panel oversees these publications.

I am also trained to hear appeals which come before the Police Appeals Tribunal. I have sat on appeals made by both police officers and police staff.

From April 2008 until February, 2009 I was the Authority's representative on the Criminal Justice Programme Board

I have also observed the policing of football and the night time economy

Wendy Martin
21 April 2009