

Neighbourhood Watch Review - Update 2
2 April 2015

Leading the Way

As you're already aware, I've huge aspirations for Neighbourhood Watch* (NHW) across Staffordshire, recognising it as a first class opportunity to prevent and reduce crime, increase public reassurance and to positively enhance citizenship.

In my initial Update issued on 25 November, you'll recall I paid tribute to the excellent contribution made by NHW Co-ordinators, members, the Force and associated staff to the delivery of community safety. Like yourselves though, I recognise that much more can now be done to build on these strong foundations. Your knowledge, experience and ongoing commitment is key as we shape the future delivery of Neighbourhood Watch and broader community engagement and together create an even safer Staffordshire.



Matthew Ellis
Police and Crime Commissioner

Community Engagement and Consultation

Led jointly by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and Staffordshire Police, engagement and consultation with existing members and co-ordinators, and with local residents and businesses is continuing and indeed will grow over coming weeks and months.

It's a challenging task to design a new and innovative Staffordshire-wide community engagement process in which we can all feel part, and your contribution to helping shape initial thinking is key to our success.

Through the distribution of the 2015 Precept Leaflet circulated by Local Councils from mid-March, over 400,000 households and businesses are being provided the opportunity through completion of an on-line survey to comment on Watch Updates and how these influence feelings of safety within the local community. Additionally, keen to grow our watch schemes across Staffordshire particularly with the younger generation, views and opinions are also being sought on how best this growth can be achieved and sustained.

Residents and businesses not currently registered to receive Watch Updates are being signposted via the Police and Crime Commissioner website, www.staffordshire-pcc.pnn.gov.uk or through the Staffordshire Police website, www.staffordshire.police.uk to register with NHW and receive these.

“Empowering residents, businesses and partners across Staffordshire to help create an even safer environment, where people are supported and united in their ambition to live safe and enjoyable lives”

Within the Force, police officer and staff engagement is now underway and an internal staffing workshop was also held on 9 March 2015. Opportunities for police-led local engagement with residents and businesses will be maximised over the coming months, providing an opportunity for you to talk with policing about your thoughts on current NHW activities, how you'd like to contribute to increasing safety in your local area and express views on growth of Watch membership across Staffordshire.

Plans are also now underway to hold a new style 2015 Conference on Saturday 30 May. At this event, I'll be able to share with you future engagement plans and you'll be able to appreciate in more detail the part you can play in the growth and development of citizen engagement, clearly focussed on my vision of making Staffordshire even safer for local residents and businesses.

More detail on the 2015 Conference will follow very shortly via the On-Line Watch (OWL) link.

Summary

I am absolutely committed to significant and ambitious development of the current NHW arrangements to a dynamic, localised, immediate and personally preferred information service. This approach will harness your commitment and dedication to keeping your community safe and I very much look forward to working with you to create an even safer Staffordshire for future generations.



Matthew Ellis
Police and Crime Commissioner

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