

Western Police Area

Our next two meetings in the Western Police Area are:-

Tuesday 5 May 2009, 7pm
Town Hall, High Street,
Neston

Tuesday 19 May 2009, 7pm
St Mary's Centre, St Mary's Hill,
off Castle Street, Chester

Please come along to either or both.

1. Local crime information

How to access local crime information on the internet – a briefing is enclosed.

2. Customer Service Desks

How the Constabulary are keeping victims of crime and witnesses updated – a briefing is enclosed.

3. HQ Crime and Operations Departments - how they support local policing

A presentation on the work of the Departments in supporting neighbourhood policing and tackling serious and organised crime – a guide to Force Operations is enclosed.

4. Policing in the Western Area

Chief Superintendent Tim Jackson will discuss policing in the area. Details of crime levels and notable incidents are attached for your information.

5. Question Time

Your opportunity to question the Authority and senior Police Officers.

Future Western Police Area meetings *All begin at 7.00pm:-*

1 September 2009 at the Lifestyle Centre, The Drummer, Winsford

22 September 2009 at the Civic Hall, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port

19 January 2010 at the Memorial Hall, Northwich

26 January 2010 at St Mary's Centre, St Mary's Hill, off Castle Street, Chester

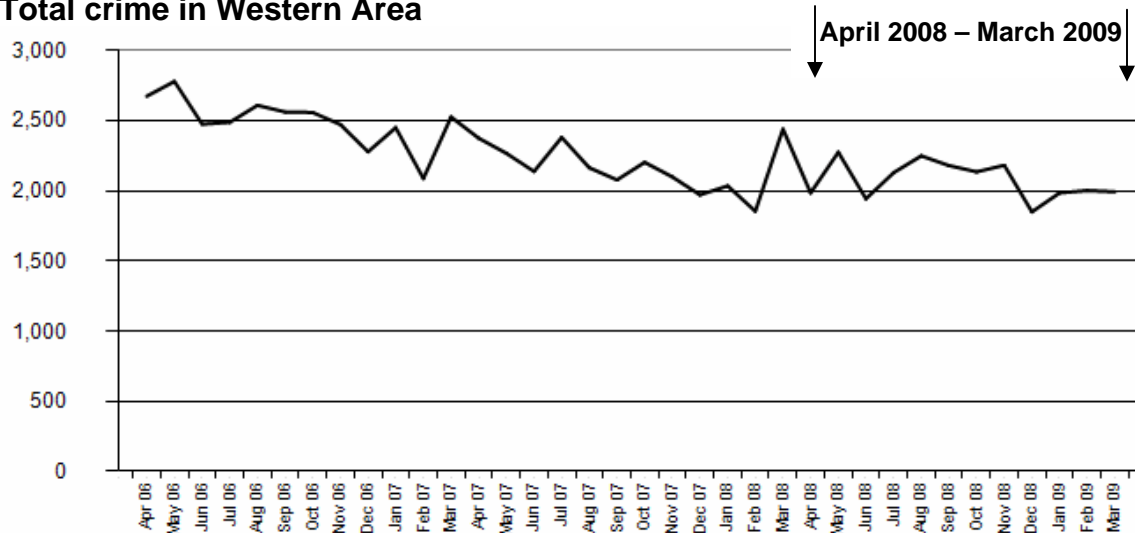
WESTERN AREA 'HAVE YOUR SAY' MEETING
5 & 19 MAY 2009

PERFORMANCE DATA: APRIL 2008 – MARCH 2009

Crime

Crime is down in the Western Area by 4% for the year April 2008 – March 2009, when compared to the comparable period the previous year.

Total crime in Western Area



Performance in relation to a number of key crime categories is as follows:-

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Domestic Burglary | Up 3% | 36 more crimes |
| Violent Crime | Down 6% | 353 less crimes |
| Vehicle Crime | Down 19% | 567 less crimes |
| Criminal Damage | Down 12% | 739 less crimes |

In Cheshire as a whole, crime is down by 5% or 4,179 less crimes.

Detections

The detection rate for all crime for the same period is up from 26.7% last year to **26.9%** this year. If the positive outcomes from restorative justice resolutions are included, this increases to **27.6%**. The performance in relation to the other key areas is as follows:-

| | <i>This year</i> | <i>Last year</i> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Domestic Burglary | 21.9% | 18.4% |
| Violent Crime | 46.3% | 46.3% |
| Vehicle Crime | 11.4% | 15.2% |
| Criminal Damage | 11.9% | 12.8% |

WESTERN AREA HAVE YOUR SAY MEETINGS 5 & 19 MAY 2009

Summary of Western Area Performance – January-April 2009

The Western Area is continuing to perform well and this has been achieved through a team effort with all departments continuing to do their bit to reduce crime and reassure the local community.

The following examples provide evidence of the work that has been going on within the Chester, Ellesmere Port and Northwich areas.

Significant Recent Operations/Activities:

In February, the Chester Inner Neighbourhood Policing Unit, supported by staff from the Outer Neighbourhood Policing Unit and Intelligence unit, carried out an operation to combat the street supply of drugs. The operation particularly focused on the Newtown area and railway stations. Teams of plain clothes officers stopped and searched 39 people and made several arrests for drugs and public order offences. One man was charged with possession of cannabis with intent to supply. Over this period, a total of 40 intelligence reports were submitted and community intelligence told us that these disruption tactics had significantly reduced the availability of drugs on the street. This is a tactic which will be repeated where and when it is needed.

Police appealed for residents to be on their guard after men claiming to be part of a probation service scheme were reported trying to sell household items door to door. In March, eight incidents were reported to police concerning salesmen claiming to have been released from prison and working with the Probation Service. On several occasions the caller had an identification badge which appears to be from the Probation Service or a prison. The Probation Service does not run this scheme and does not issue the identification badges. Prison identification is taken back from prisoners when they are released.

Two men have been jailed for at least 15 years each after they were found guilty of the murder of a 59 year old Northwich Grandfather, James Straiton. Nigel Goolding and Joshua Spruce, both 20, were sentenced at Chester Crown Court in April after a five week trial. Mr Straiton, died in August 2008, two weeks after he was attacked outside his home after remonstrating with a groups of youths making noise on their way home from a party.

A 39-year-old man from Ellesmere Port was sentenced to six years in prison after he was convicted of three counts of burglary. John Cull, also asked for another 30 similar offences committed between September 2008 and March 2009 to be taken into consideration. The sentence is a culmination of seven months work undertaken by the Chester and Ellesmere Port Proactive Policing team, who focused their operation upon investigating the type of burglaries that Cull was

committing – preying on vulnerable, elderly victims in their homes in Ellesmere Port.

A 43-year-old man has been arrested and charged with burglary after police set-up a trap house in Blacon using the latest security technology. Police officers worked with Chester and District Housing Trust to set up the flat in Stamford Road, Blacon with property in the house being marked with 'SmartWater' to identify it and link it to the address. 'SmartWater' a forensically-coded liquid and like DNA, each batch produced is unique. When it is installed onto property, it is registered with a unique code so offenders or coded property can then be linked to the owner's address. The substance is invisible to the naked eye but can be easily identified by officers with ultraviolet light. 'SmartWater' also remains on skin, hair and clothing for several weeks or months and will not wash off.

A 62-year-old woman has become the oldest person in Chester to be issued with an ASBO. Christine Stanley of Pearl Lane, Vicars Cross was made the subject of a four-year Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) at Chester Magistrates court on 22 April. Under the order, Stanley cannot act in an anti-social way that is likely to cause distress or encourage others to do so; be in possession of an unsealed container of alcohol in any public place or enter any driveway, garden, shed or garage on Pearl Lane, without prior permission of the landlord, tenant or owner/occupier. She is also banned from making excessive noise, voluntarily lying down on a public highway or positioning herself on the highway in a way that unnecessarily and unreasonably places others in potential danger or harm. Stanley is prohibited from contacting the emergency services in a manner likely to cause distress, nuisance, harassment or alarm unless it is an emergency, whereby there is a potentially dangerous or life threatening situation requiring immediate action. Stanley is also banned from approaching, threatening, intimidating or communicating directly or indirectly with two named witnesses. The order was made after complaints were made about Stanley's behaviour in the community, which included playing music at an excessively loud volume and causing harassment and distress to members of the public. She also made more than 150 calls to the emergency services over 12 months.