

## Welcome from our new Chief Executive

**Miranda Carruthers-Watt was appointed as the new Chief Executive of Lancashire Police Authority in April 2007. Here she outlines some of her plans for her new role.**

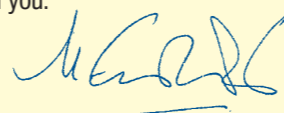
“As a Lancashire resident and Council Tax payer, I feel privileged to have been appointed to the role and want to make sure that the Authority works even harder to make sure that local people have their say in local policing.

Therefore, we have developed “Investors in Policing”, a new campaign that urges people to look upon their local police as a service in which they invest and in which they, rightly, should have a say in its direction.

Lancashire is a top performing force but to help improve performance and 'customer' satisfaction still further I believe that that the amount of 'red tape' in the police system needs to be reduced and that we must make even more effort to work with partners in Local Authorities, the Criminal Justice system and community and voluntary groups so that resources are targeted at problem solving. The role of the Police Authority is important: it makes sure that the Police use their resources efficiently and effectively and it monitors police performance. This means we spend a lot of time working with the police to look at those things

which people in Lancashire have told us are important.

I'm keen to build up awareness and understanding of the role of the Police Authority and demonstrate how we work with the Constabulary to ensure an efficient and effective police service, to clearly show how council tax contributions are used and to increase public confidence in policing. One of the things that I want to do is to make sure that the task of “holding the Police to account” is clearly understood across Lancashire. Please do keep talking to us, either through your local Police Authority Community meetings (dates can be found at the back of this newsletter) - these are your chance to be involved with Authority Members and the Divisional Commander for your area and to ask some of the difficult questions! - or through our website [www.lancspa.gov.uk](http://www.lancspa.gov.uk) These are key elements (and challenges) of my role, which I am enjoying immensely. I look forward to working with you.




Miranda Carruthers-Watt

See the centre pages for more information on **Investors in Policing**.



## “ALSO IN THIS ISSUE”

- Fix my street
- PAC meeting dates
- Custody Developments

We want to ensure that this newsletter is addressing the issues that are important to you. If you have any suggestions about any issues or topics you would like us to include in the next edition, please contact Naomi Walker on 01772 531214 or e-mail [naomi.walker@lpa.lancscc.gov.uk](mailto:naomi.walker@lpa.lancscc.gov.uk)

## Policing Puzzle Solved!

**Young Luke Britton enjoyed a VIP trip in a police car from the new Central Police Station in Preston on Sunday 8th July, courtesy of Lancashire Police Authority. Ten year old Luke from Preston, was the lucky winner of the Police Authority's Word Puzzle competition in the community newsletter 'Newsbeat', issued earlier this year.**

Hundreds of entries were received and Luke's name was drawn out of a hat by Chief Executive, Miranda Carruthers-Watt, who said: “We are keen to see young people taking an interest in policing and it is always a shame that there can only be one winner. However, Luke had a wonderful time and

hopefully will tell his friends all about it!”

Luke, who considers that the most important job for the police is 'catching criminals', was met by Sgt Nicholson of the Road Policing Unit at Central Division where he had his photograph taken with a patrol car as a memento of the day. This was followed by, in his view, the best bit of the day - a trip out in the police car to see all the gadgets first hand.

When asked about his journey in the police car, Luke said: “I thought it was great and would like another go!”





# “YOU ARE AN INVESTOR IN POLICING”

July 1st marked the launch of the Police Authority's 'Investors in Policing' campaign, when hundreds of local people were brought in for questioning - but they weren't in trouble, they were helping us with our enquiries by sharing their thoughts on policing.

Views were captured by people either leaving a 'video statement' in the special video diary booth or by allocating '£125 policing pounds' across 16 areas of policing to show how they think that money should be spent.

The five top five choices were, in order of priority:

1. Terrorism
2. Tackling drugs crime
3. Tackling anti-social behaviour
4. Bringing criminals to justice
5. Keeping communities safe

People were also invited to 'grab' (and keep) real £5 notes kindly sponsored by the research company SMSR mingled in with 'fake' notes in the money grabber kiosk.

### Looking for answers

The event epitomised the significance the Authority is placing on community involvement and its drive to include the views of the whole community in shaping local policing.

As Chief Executive of the Authority Miranda Carruthers-Watt explains, the Police Authority has a vital role in this - and so do you. “The Police Authority is the bridge between the public and the police,” she said. “As council tax payers the public has a right to have a say in the way their money is spent on all local services, and that includes policing. Giving people the opportunity to make their voice heard and taken into account is one of our key roles. Residents can give us their views in a number of ways, such as completing our online survey; attending Police Authority Community Meeting where they can talk to Police Authority members and

police officers; or by emailing ([info@lpa.lancscc.gov.uk](mailto:info@lpa.lancscc.gov.uk)) or telephoning us direct on **01772 533587**.

It's important that people know what the Authority does, our role in holding the Chief Constable to account, delivering value for money services and how they can get involved. We really want feedback on the policing service residents receive so that we can drive forward improvements. Investors in Policing will help us do this.”

### What Investors in Policing will achieve:

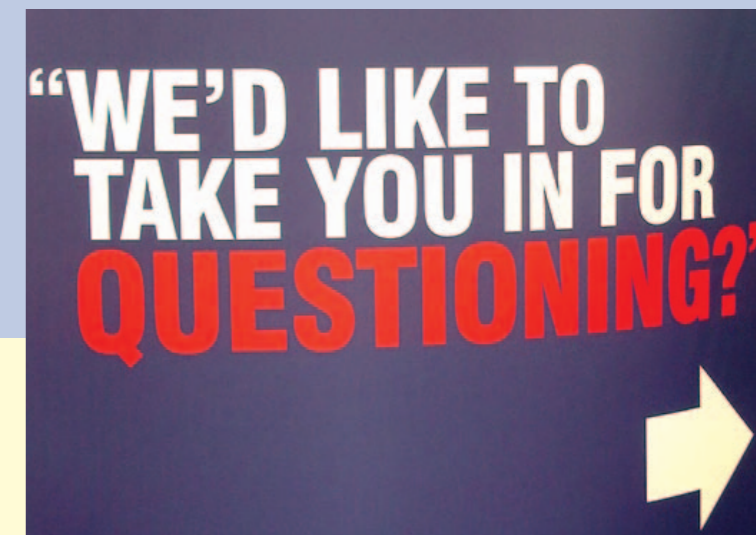
- Better dialogue with the whole community
- Policing priorities based on, and responsive to, local needs
- Customer-focused policing services
- Increased satisfaction with the police service
- Greater understanding of local issues
- An awareness of the role of the Police Authority
- Trust and openness between the police and the public

### This new and highly pro-active campaign sends a clear message from the Police Authority. Talk to us and we will listen!

As Miranda concludes: “We are making it easier and more enjoyable for people to get involved in policing, whether as individuals, community groups or via our partners. By working together we can develop a police service that really reflects the needs and priorities of local communities which, in turn, will lead to more confidence in the police.”



People were invited to 'grab' (and take home) real £5 notes mingled in with 'fake' notes in the wind machine



We took hundreds of people in for questioning!



A bustling marquee



A visit by officers from the Constabulary



A lucky winner

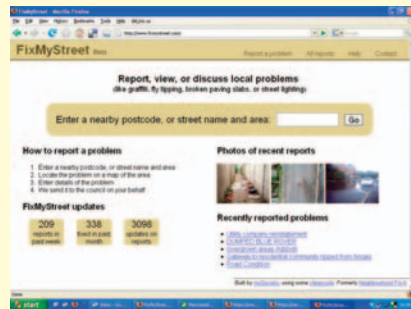


# “DIALOGUE”

## Police Authority Community Meetings - September to October 2007

District	Venue	Date	Time
Lancaster	Morecambe Town Hall, Marine Road East, Morecambe, LA4 5AS	Tuesday 4th September	7pm
Wyre	Wyre Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 7PU	Wednesday 5th September	7pm
Ribble Valley	Ribble Valley Borough Council Offices, Church Walk, Clitheroe, BB7 2RA	Wednesday 12th September	7pm
Preston	St Stephen's C of E School, South Meadow Lane, Preston, PR1 8JN	Monday 17th September	7pm
Blackpool	Park School, 158 Whitegate Drive, Blackpool, FY3 9HF	Thursday 20th September	7pm
West Lancashire	Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood, Digmoor, Skelmersdale WN8 9HR	Monday 24th September	7pm
Chorley	Coppull Youth & Community Centre, Springfield Road, Coppull, PR7 5EJ	Monday 1st October	7pm
South Ribble	Penwortham Community Centre, Kingsfold Drive, Penwortham PR1 9EQ	Thursday 4th October	7pm
Blackburn-With-Darwen	Greenfield Community Centre, Green Lane, Blackburn BB2 4SR	Monday 8th October	7pm
Fylde	YMCA, St Albans Road, St Annes on Sea, Lancashire, FY8 1XD	Thursday 11th October	7pm
Burnley	Howard Street Community Health Centre, Tay Street, Burnley, BB11 4PQ	Monday 15th October	7pm
Pendle	Foulridge Village Hall, Parkinson Street, Foulridge Colne, BB8 7PS	Wednesday 17th October	7pm
Hyndburn	Norden High School & Sports College, Stourton Street, Rishton, Blackburn, BB1 4ED	Thursday 18th October	7pm
Rossendale	The Riverside Whitworth Civic Hall, Market Street, Whitworth, OL12 8DP	Thursday 25th October	7pm

## www.fixmystreet.com



Launched in February 2007, **FixMyStreet** is a new website to help people highlight local problems to the council simply by locating them on a map.

Simply visit the website at [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com) and

follow the instructions. A spokesperson for Fylde Borough Council said: "The site is very good, nice and simple to use with good mapping facilities. We have received about 10 requests so far with pictures detailing the problem - all of which have now been resolved."

## “CUSTODY DEVELOPMENTS”

The valuable work of Lancashire Police Authority's Independent Custody Visitor volunteers largely goes unseen. They are members of the community who not only provide an extra level of protection to detainees but also help to provide community reassurance and improve public understanding of Custody Procedures. Through the scheme Lancashire Police Authority strives to ensure that custody areas are a safe environment for all people who come into contact with the police.



To promote the important role of the Custody Visitors and provide a training aid, the Police Authority is currently developing a multi-media DVD with the help of Lancashire Constabulary and a local theatrical group. Filming recently took place at the new state of the art custody suite at new police operation centre in Preston. The new custody centre opened on Wednesday, 18th July and replaced the old police cells at Lawson Street Police Station.

The Lancashire Evening Post came along to film the day. The newspaper article and film footage can be found at <http://www.lep.co.uk/features-av?articleid=3044514>

Further information on the scheme can be found at <http://www.lancspa.gov.uk/contribute/volunteers/icv>

## “CONTACT”

In an emergency when you need an immediate response dial 999  
 Police Non emergency number - 0845 1253545  
 Crimestoppers - a confidential phone line - 0800 555 111  
 Lancashire Police Authority - 01772 533462

Remember.....If the police don't know about a problem they cannot do anything about it.