



SURREY  
**POLICE**  
AUTHORITY

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25<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Dear Sir or Madam

I wanted to give your readers a brief update on the public consultations planned around the major changes to Surrey Police which have been widely publicised over the last couple of months.

We have been able to begin the process of consultation quickly by using two of our tried and tested consultation methods – a survey of the 3,100 members of the public who make up our Citizens' Panel and an online survey on our website that will be opening at the end of January. By launching these at the earliest opportunity we will be able to start factoring the views of residents into the planning process as quickly as possible.

The Chief Constable estimates that it will take around two to three years for his restructuring plans to be implemented in full. We will continue to keep the public informed about the changes as they progress and will offer a range of additional opportunities for Surrey people to have their say about them. We have also begun a comprehensive process of briefings and discussions with Surrey's elected representatives and we will continue to talk to as many of them as we can.

As a police authority, we are required by law to consult with residents in our area. We take this responsibility very seriously and do our best within our limited resources to offer a good range of different ways for people to have a say on policing in the course of each year. In 2009 for example, we carried out several surveys of our Citizens' Panel, a survey of our partner organisations, nine public meetings, two focus groups, a survey for young people and an online petition.

Full consideration is given to the information we gather in our consultations. The forthcoming Local Policing Plan that sets out the priorities for Surrey Police for the year ahead will be heavily influenced by what we have learned over the course of the year.

If you would like to talk to the police about issues in your community, you can speak face-to-face with your neighbourhood police team by attending your local Neighbourhood Panel meetings, details of which can be found on the Surrey Police website [www.surrey.police.uk](http://www.surrey.police.uk) or by calling 0845 125 2222.

If you would be interested in taking part in any of the Authority's meetings or consultations on more strategic, county-wide issues, I warmly welcome you to contact the Surrey Police Authority office on 01483 630 200 or email [spa@surrey.police.uk](mailto:spa@surrey.police.uk).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Williams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Peter Williams**  
**Chairman, Surrey Police Authority**