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## Press Release

**Date: 28 June 2006**

### **DPP Acknowledges Retiring Superintendents Role to Local Policing**

**Cookstown District Policing Partnership has acknowledged the contribution made by Superintendent AIE Johnston MBE to local policing at a reception hosted by the Partnership to mark his retirement from Cookstown District Command Unit.**

At a reception held in the District Council Offices on 28 June Partnership Members expressed their appreciation for Superintendent Ivan Johnston, as local District Commander since April 2001, for his determination in delivering a police service in partnership with communities and neighbourhoods from right across the district.

Speaking at the reception DPP Chairman Councillor Ian McCrea said, "Returning as District Commander to the area in 2001 Superintendent Johnston has without a doubt impacted upon local policing in his determination to make the district safe for everyone to live, work and socialise in".

Cllr McCrea continued, "Under Ivan's direction the district has one of the lowest recorded crime rates in Northern Ireland with clearance rates for crime being as high as 40% throughout 2005/ 06. One of the highest clearance rates for crime in Northern Ireland".

A total of 2,192 offences were recorded by Cookstown District Command Unit in 2005/ 2006 of which 877 were solved and cleared. This is compared to 123,194 recorded offences across Northern Ireland of which 37,664 were cleared (a 30.6% clearance rate).

The Chairman said, "Ivan's capabilities as an officer and contribution to policing were quite rightly acknowledged by Her Majesty in 2005 with the award of an MBE. This in itself has highlighted the professionalism and dedication he has brought to policing in Cookstown and throughout Northern Ireland during his long and distinguished career".

Councillor McCrea concluded by stating that the Partnership looked forward to working with Chief Inspector Brian Williamson who will be given responsibility for the management of the local police Command Unit in early July.

**For further information please contact**

**Cllr Ian McCrea 07773 846281 / Philip Moffett 028 8676 2205**

**Note to the Editor**

**1. Members of Cookstown DPP:**

Cllr Mary Baker  
Mrs Elizabeth Baxter  
Cllr Peter Cassidy  
Mr Eoin Doyle (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr Samuel Glasgow  
Mr Paddy Mellon  
Cllr Ian McCrea (Chairman)

Mrs Ursula Marshall  
Mrs Alston Scott-McKinley  
Cllr Samuel McCartney  
Mrs Ita Pickering  
Cllr Tony Quinn  
Cllr James McGarvey  
Cllr Trevor Wilson

Mr Phonsie Eastwood

**3. Functions of Cookstown DPP**

Cookstown DPP is a partnership between Cookstown District Council and representatives of the local community, and has been established to:

1. Consult with the community to help establish local policing priorities
2. Monitor the performance of the police against local policing plans
3. Act as a forum for discussion on matters affecting the policing of the district
4. Gain the co-operation of the public in preventing crime