

Cookstown District Policing Partnership
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Press Release

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COOKSTOWN DPP PREPARES FOR FOURTH MEETING IN PUBLIC

Cookstown District Policing Partnership will hold its fourth meeting in public session on Thursday 20 November 2003 in the Crieve Centre, Stewartstown at 7pm to which all members of the public are welcome to attend. At this meeting the District Commander of Cookstown PSNI will deliver the District Command Unit's six monthly report * on the policing of the district, detailing specific steps which have been taken to progress the concept of community policing within the district.

DPP Chairman Cllr Patsy McGlone said, "meetings in public session enable Cookstown DPP to do its business in the most transparent manner possible".

Cllr McGlone, said, "it is important for the DPP to make sure the Police Service is delivering a service which is appropriate for the needs of the local community, and one which had policing with the community at its core".

He added, "this would only be achieved through ensuring local accountability in policing, with the DPP persistently monitoring and influencing district policing priorities".

Made up of councillors nominated from Cookstown District Council and independent members', representative of the local community, the current membership will remain until June 2005.

Cllr McGlone said, "with senior police officers now required to attend meetings of the DPP in public a mechanism has been set in place for the community to use in shaping and having a say in how they are policed on a day to day basis".

Although members of the Partnership will question senior police officers on the policing of the district, the public can have previously submitted questions answered by the police at the meeting.

DPP Manager, Philip Moffett said, "Cookstown DPP has a system in place which allows residents to have a question asked of the District Commander concerning the policing of the district".

He continued, "local residents or those with an interest in the policing of the district may submit written questions on a rolling basis to be answered at the next available meeting in public session. With the DPP holding a meeting in public every two months questions are dealt with on a regular basis".

Philip Moffett said, "to make the process as user friendly as possible members of the public may submit their questions using a variety of methods; by either post to the DPP Manager, C/o Cookstown District Council, Burn Road, Cookstown, BT80 8NT; by e-mail to district.policing@cookstown.gov.uk; by accessing the homepage at www.cookstown.gov.uk; or by fax 028 8676 4360. A text phone facility is available for those with difficulties in submitting a question in writing (028 8676 5827).

For questions to be considered for the next meeting in public in Stewartstown they must be submitted by **Wednesday 12 November 2003**.

Ends.

**For further information please contact
Cllr Patsy McGlone on 07968 111205**

Note to the Editor

1. Members of Cookstown DPP:

Cllr Mary Baker	Mrs Ursula Marshall
Mrs Elizabeth Baxter	Cllr Patsy McGlone (Chairman)
Cllr Peter Cassidy	Cllr Samuel Parke
Mr Eoin Doyle	Mrs Ita Pickering
Cllr Samuel Glasgow	Mr Tony Quinn
Mr Samuel Laughlin	Cllr James McGarvey
Cllr Ian McCrea	Cllr Trevor Wilson (Vice-Chairman)

Mrs T Rooney resigned in September 2003

2. Details of Meeting

The meeting starts at 7:00pm in the Crieve Centre, Stewartstown. An agenda may be obtained from the DPP Manager on request.

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

4. Cookstown PSNI Six-Monthly Report*

The six-monthly report will contain information on:

- (a) the steps that are being taken to progress policing with the community as the core function of all police within the district
- (b) the contribution being made to community projects within the district
- (c) progress in achieving targets set out in the local policing plan and the annual policing plan
- (d) progress in achieving targets relative to crime prevention in the district.