Have your say on the future of Police Premises

The Lancashire public are to be asked for their views on the future of police premises and front counter services in the county after the Constabulary considered a report outlining potential savings of up to £1 million annually and one-off sales of over £4 million.

As part of on-going work to identify savings in the region of £42 million over the next four years, the Constabulary has been reviewing the properties it uses and the services it provides via front counters in some of its police stations. The reviews, which were noted by senior managers on Friday June 10th 2011, outline a plan to make no changes to the busiest stations across the county but to close a number of the front counter desks and to dispose of those premises where there is limited demand from the public, where the public have no access or which are unoccupied.

The review has found that 81% of the total footfall of visitors across the county is catered for by just 17 of the front counters. The remaining 21 are dealing with only 19% of the overall footfall and are therefore recommended for closure.

To view the proposals for our divisional area, please follow the links below:

Southern Division (Chorley, West Lancs)

Your views count

We recognise that police station closures can cause anxiety and concern amongst local people which is why we are asking the Lancashire public for their views to ensure that we are taking these into account when making the final decision on closures later this year. The consultation will start on 1st July 2011 and will last for three months, before final decisions are made later in the year.

More information about how you can get involved and make your views heard will be available shortly.
Three men were arrested earlier today (Tuesday 28 June) as police carried out a series of co-ordinated early morning drugs raids in Skelmersdale. Around 40 officers from across Lancashire Constabulary carried out the Operation Nimrod raids to target drug dealing activity in the town in response to concerns from the local community. Warrants were executed under the Misuse of Drugs Act at four addresses in the town on Uppingham, Carfield and two flats on Elmstead. The operation began at around 7.30am when officers, including operational support units and the dog section with drug detection dogs, swooped on the target addresses.

Chief Insp Geoff Hurst, who oversees policing in West Lancashire, said: "We are committed to taking Class A drugs off our streets and today's activity shows that we will take action against those we suspect of being involved in drug-related crime. This is a focused police response to a community problem. We have asked the public to work with us and they have sent us a very clear message that they do not want people who illegally deal drugs to live among them. Our work does not end here - we will continue to target individuals we suspect to be involved with drugs and we will continue to work with neighbourhoods affected by drug dealing to help make sure that new dealers don't enter the market."

The 31-year-old man, 39-year-old man and 37-year-old man arrested were all arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of heroin. They remain in police custody, where they will be questioned by detectives.

Nationally acclaimed Operation Nimrod is a force-wide operation dedicated to tackling drug-related crime right across the county. The crackdown is a long-term approach that has been running since 2002.

**Summer Fetes**

The Neighbourhood team at Skelmersdale often attend School and Church fetes when our duties allow in order to engage with the community. Above you will see a picture of PCSO Cronshaw who in company with PCSO Benson managed to utilise the Neighbourhood van to speak with locals, provide crime prevention advice, show local residents some of our uniform and specialist equipment. I would also like to thank PC Baker and PC Ellis who were able to attend two of our recent events and demonstrate the use of Police Dogs and answer questions form the public.
Summer Drinking and Driving campaign

The crackdown will see high profile enforcement activity take place across the county throughout the month of June. There will be checkpoints at key locations where officers will administer drink and drugs tests. Supt Peter O’Dwyer said "We want people to have fun this summer and enjoy the warmer weather but to remember the dangers of driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The consequences of drink driving are high - a conviction could mean that you lose your job, home, family and friends. Not only that but you are more likely to cause a road crash than a driver who hasn’t been drinking, potentially resulting in serious injury or even death." In 2010 there were 46 fatal collisions in Lancashire and eight of these involved drink or drugs.

County Councilor Tim Ashton, Cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "A great deal of effort has gone into reducing the numbers of people being killed and seriously injured on our roads through safety engineering works, driver training and education. But individuals also have to take responsibility, and decide for themselves that the risk of drinking and driving is one that's simply not worth taking."

The number of people caught drink and drug driving continues to fall in Lancashire, with two per cent of the 10,006 people tested during last year's Christmas campaign failing or refusing a test. In 2010’s summer drive crackdown, 9,000 people were tested throughout June. 220 of these failed the test or refused to provide a sample - representing a 2.4 per cent failure or refusal rate.

Now officers say they want to see the figure to decrease even further. Supt O'Dwyer added "Even though we have tested more drivers, the number of people caught drink driving has fallen for the fourth year running - but one person drink driving is too many and we are committed to reducing this further.

“Our message is simple - do not drink and drive and do not take drugs and drive."

If you would like to report someone who you suspect of driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs, contact the police on 0845 1 25 35 45.

Cannabis Seizure

Cannabis with an estimated street value of £38,000 was seized as police carried out a raid in Skelmersdale.
38 kilos of cannabis resin was seized by officers as a warrant was executed under the Misuse of Drugs Act at a property on Elmridge.
I would like to make you all aware of a scam that is currently taking place nationally that I have been made aware of by our intelligence department. I'm aware that due to the nature of the information received that this next part will use some technical jargon, if you have any problems don't hesitate to contact me.

A person have been cold calling individuals enquiring if they have a computer which has Microsoft as the operating system, most computers will use this system unless it is an Apple Mac.

1. Cold calling as described above with victims directed by the caller to the Microsoft Event Viewer and shown that the machine is 'infected' with cookies, or that any application errors are the result of a virus. The unwary are then persuaded that there is a security risk and allow remote access to the machine in order that the operator can clean the machine, for a fee.

2. Fake AV downloaded via compromised legitimate websites (i.e. the Spotify breach that occurred late March) that results in a screen showing 'windows security' and a graphic that purports to be scanning the computer (its just a graphic, no scans are performed). Files are then hidden ensuring that the user cannot find any programs or files and the malware also infects the restore points to re-infect if that option is chosen. Files can be found again by un-checking the 'hidden' box in file properties. The user is then asked to pay a fee and allow remote access so the machine can be 'fixed'.

It would appear that both of the above are controlled by foreign call centres. Additionally, Action Fraud have indicated that they would take such reports.

http://www.actionfraud.org.uk/home.

What is clear is that the problem is growing and anecdotally, it would appear that elderly people are disproportionately affected. I would advise that if you ever receive a phone call from a person asking for any personal details, including details from your computer to be suspicious of their intent. We all have information on our computers relating to banking, bill payments, addresses and other personal details that we would not want the wrong people getting their hands on. Please report any suspicious calls to us or to the address above.
Liverpool man has been jailed for five years for a distraction burglary in Wrightington. Dennis O'Brien, 48, of Bibby Street, Liverpool appeared at Lancaster Crown Court today (Friday 24 June) where he was handed the sentence after previously being found guilty by a jury of burglary with intent.

DC Steve Wilcox said: "O'Brien preyed on a vulnerable lady in a despicable, targeted attack. I am pleased with the sentence given to him and I hope it reassures residents that such criminals will be targeted and put behind bars. We will continue to work with residents to offer crime prevention advice on beating these kind of criminals but I would always urge people to be cautious of anyone suspicious coming to their door and to report information to the police on 0845 1 25 35 45."

On 10 October 2010, O'Brien entered the property of a 93-year-old woman with the intent to steal. Nothing was stolen from the premises as he left when he was disturbed by her carer. He was arrested by officers on the same day.

Advice on keeping your home safe is available on the Lancashire Constabulary website,

http://www.lancashire.police.uk/

Leave it, Lose it!!

Due to a recent increase in the amount of auto crime in the area I would like to remind all local residents not to leave items on display in their cars. Opportunistic thieves do operate in this area and if they notice anything left on display in a vehicle, be it valuable or not they will take the chance to see if anything else has been left in the vehicle.

These are habitual criminals who often look inside all vehicles to see what has been left behind. Do not be lulled into a false sense of security by thinking you are only going in the shop for a minute or two as it takes only a matter of seconds for them to try a door handle or smash a window.

Please always lock your vehicle and any items you intend to leave behind place in a glove box, boot or similar. If you use a satellite navigation system please remember to remove the sucker marks on the windscreen as this is also an indication that this may be in the vehicle.
Rural Watch

People who are spotted potentially poaching in Lancashire are to receive letters warning them they are being watched by police. Officers are encouraging local residents to report any suspicious activity in rural areas in a bid to crack down on poaching and other associated crime, such as theft of farming equipment.

Vehicle number plates noted by residents, police officers or other partner agencies such as council park wardens, will result in the registered owner receiving a letter explaining that if they are involved in poaching activity then they risk having any equipment - including their dogs - seized and that they could face prosecution.

Lancashire Constabulary's wildlife officer Mark Thomas said: "When we receive information about suspicious vehicles we will be contacting owners so that they are aware that their vehicle was reported to us. If they were going about legitimate business, we hope that this will reassure them that the police are working to keep Lancashire safe so that their visit to the area was without event. However, if they were in the area to poach or commit other crimes the letter will be a warning that they are being watched and that Lancashire does not welcome criminals. We regularly work with our neighbouring forces in Merseyside and Cumbria to prevent criminals travelling across borders to commit crime in rural areas and use text schemes, such as FarmWatch, in more remote areas to send information out to residents so that they can take precautions to avoid becoming a victim of crime."

Parking Issue
Parbold Douglas School

The above pictures were taken by a local resident who is concerned about the regularity of people committing parking offences on the busy stretch of Lancaster Lane, between Parbold Douglas School and Our Lady and All Saints Church. The road in these pictures clearly states 'Keep Clear' unfortunately parents who are collecting or dropping off their children continually park here. Other offences include parking next to solid white lines in the centre of the road or on the junction at Miry Lane. I have on this occasion blocked out the registration of offending vehicles but will be speaking with the owners to inform them of the problems being caused.
## Crime Summary
### 2010

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Comparison of year to date

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Anti-Social Behaviour

June

1. Nuisance – 08:08hrs 27th June 2011 - Members of the Gypsy, Romany Traveller group are currently making camp at Vale Lane, Lathom.
2. Nuisance – 04:02hrs 26th June 2011 – Blonde haired male reported to be knocking at the informant's address in Parbold. Advised not to answer the door and patrol was dispatched, patrol searched the area at 04:16hrs and could not locate male matching the description.
3. Nuisance – 11:20hrs 25th June 2011 – Informant wishing to report that groups of youths have started to congregate in the area of Mill Leats in Parbold around 21:00hrs at night.
5. Personal – 15:45hrs 18th June 2011 – Informant reporting that a group of youths who are taking part in a charity bike ride have stopped at his house and are banging on his door and window. Event organiser returned with four youths to apologise, patrol attended and spoke with male but at this point no youths in the area. Informant states this happens every year.
6. Nuisance – 13:48hrs 18th June 2011 – Known youth from the Wigan area has been phoning local youth care home in Wrightington and making threats towards resident at the address. Local officer is aware and is in the process of locating named offender.
7. Nuisance – 20:07hrs 17th June 2011 – Informant reporting a group of youths having been dropped off by parents at Newburgh Sports and Social club. Informant stated he could not tell if they were inside or outside social club, patrols visited the area routinely and they only disturbance came when youths were leaving the area at midnight.
8. Nuisance – 09:00hrs 17th June 2011 – Informant reporting abandoned vehicle on a private car park in the Wrightington area. Owner of the vehicle initially stated it had broken down and was arranging removal, this has still not happened and owner has now left the area. As this is a private car park informant advised to speak with local removal service that will tow vehicle away.
9. Personal – 17:26 5th June 2011 – Local licensee at the Beacon Inn reporting having received a threatening phone call. She believes this to be from an incident in the past few days with a male customer. Informant states she does not require Police attendance and that she did not expect any future problems.
10. Nuisance - 08:29 1st June 2011 – Informant reporting a group of males fighting on Crow Orchard garage forecourt. A patrol attended and viewed the cctv images and confirmed there was no physical altercation but verbal only. No aggrieved party has reported themselves as a victim, therefore no crime was committed.

To contact the police:
☎️ 0845 1 25 35 45  www.lancashire.police.uk
News in Brief

1. **29th June 2011 19:00hrs** – Assault in Parbold - The aggrieved was approached by a known male outside McColls and grabbed around the throat causing slight graze and reddening to his neck and was verbally threatened. The aggrieved has refused to provide a formal statement and requested no further Police involvement.

2. **28th June - 29th June 2011** - Criminal Damage in Newburgh – Unknown offenders have approached the aggrieved’s rear garden via a public footpath on Back Lane and made there way to a large trampoline at the bottom of the garden. Using a sharp bladed instrument have then proceeded to slash the trampoline approx 17 times. There has been nothing seen by any neighbours and no cameras covering the incident.

3. **27th June – 28th June 2011** – Theft in Heskin – Unknown offenders have approached the rear of the aggrieved’s property on Coopers Lane and removed a set of ladders and a chain saw that have been left out by accident after the aggrieved had been doing some gardening. There was nothing seen or heard by neighbours and no cameras covering the incident.

4. **28th June 2011 14:00hrs** – Stealing of Motor Vehicles in Appley Bridge – Unknown offenders have approached a locked and secure RENAULT TRAFFIC VAN PE08 EWC in white situated in the parking area of local Poultry farm on Skull House Lane. Offenders have located the keys for this in employees jacket pocket and using keys stolen the van.

5. **27th June – 28th June 2011** – Theft in Appley Bridge – Unknown offenders have approached an insecure business premises on Skull House Lane and have located a large quantity of galvanised steel taking the same. There is no cctv and no witnesses.

6. **10th June – 13th June 2011** – Theft in Parbold – Offender has gained access to managers office at the Miller and Carter public house and stolen aggrieved’s Armani wrist watch. There is no CCTV available that captures the incident and there are no further lines of enquiry.

7. **20th June 2011** – Fraud in Parbold – A group of unknown males have incurred a bill of approx £100 at the Miller Carter restaurant and have made off without making a payment. There is CCTV at the premises and this is being prepared for officers to view.

8. **21st June – 23rd June 2011** – Burglary in Parbold – Offenders have approached the rear of a premises on Beechfield via an electricity substation and have proceeded to force open a upvc bedroom window and have conducted an untidy search of the house, selecting various items of jewellery before leaving undetected.

9. **20th June 2011** – Theft in Parbold – Known youths have entered McColls and removed confectionary items and left the store without making payment. The youths have been identified and are in the process of being dealt with.

10. **18th June 2011** – Harassment in Wrightington - Known youth from the Wigan area has been phoning local youth care home in Wrightington and making threats towards resident at the address. Local officer is aware and is in the process of locating named offender.

11. **16th June 2011** – Burglary in Parbold – Offenders have approached the front door of aggrieved’s property situated on Burnside and opened by unknown means. They have then proceeded to search the house and remove various items including two sets of car keys. The vehicles have been sighted in Skelmersdale but eventually lost in the Merseyside area, however during the lines of enquiry conducted by Lancashire officers the vehicles have been recovered and an offender has been identified and charged with the offence.

12. **11th June 2011** – Actual Bodily Harm in Parbold – There was a verbal and physical altercation between two adult brothers who both reside at mothers address. During the altercation one brother has ‘head butted’ the other before leaving the area. A report was made and Police attended, during the course of our enquiries the aggrieved party has retracted their statement and therefore we can take no further action
Please be aware of these crimes and make your friends and colleagues aware. If you have any information regarding these crimes or any other incident please contact us or alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on the numbers below.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Contact Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Dial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non Emergency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parbold Office</td>
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<td>N.H.P.T</td>
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Email: CJ.NPT@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Do you have a friend or colleague who would like to receive this Newsletter? If so please ask them to send an e mail to PC Steve Hackney or PCSO Dave Benson at the following address

steven.hackney@lancashire.pnn.police.uk or dave.benson2@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

with the subject heading

Please add to email distribution list.

P.A.C.T meetings in June

The next Police and Communities Together meeting for Parbold, Hilldale, Newburgh, Dalton and Bispham Green for the month of June will be;

**Monday 5th September 2011 at 19:30hrs, Parbold Douglas School (There is no meeting in August)**

Also Carolyn’s Coffee morning which we regularly attend, jobs allowing will be;

*Friday 8th July and 22nd July 2011 at 10:00hrs, Wrightington Village Hall.*

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Regards

Pcso 7372 Dave Benson