

AGENDA ITEM: 7



Mr T Hurrell
 South Derbyshire LSP Chair
 St Mary's Wharf
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Derbyshire Constabulary

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 Ask For: Deana Wheatley
 Our Ref: FHQ/CC/dlw
 Your Ref:

11 June 2004

Dear *Tony*,

Crime and Disorder Reduction and Community Safety

I write as Chief Constable of Derbyshire, but also in my capacity as Crime and Community Safety Champion for the Derbyshire Community Strategy, to seek your views, and hopefully your support, on a number of suggestions which are intended to take forward Theme One of the Strategy, Crime and Community Safety. Given sufficient interest in discussing these ideas further, I hope to arrange a series of workshop sessions later in the summer and early autumn, possibly to follow forthcoming Derbyshire Partnership Forum meetings. Senior level political and policy support for these proposals will be vital and, whilst you will of course want to take views from your local practitioners, I would very much welcome the opportunity to receive views directly from key decision-makers in response to this letter. I have directed the letter to LSP's because they have a substantially wider remit than Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, and so present the potential to assess the views of a wider group of stakeholders.

The Wider Policing Family

The term "wider policing family" is now becoming a familiar one to those directly involved in Police Reform, but is perhaps less so to others. Essentially, it describes the whole range of "front line" resources, which have any capability of impacting to reduce Crime and Disorder in communities. In addition to police officers and staff this includes, for example, street wardens, housing wardens, private security personnel, park rangers, and the like. It might also include, for some purposes, health service staff, direct labour staff, staff of transport undertakings, postal and delivery workers, and so on. The basic premise is that besides police, there are a great many people working in communities on a daily basis who can provide "eyes and ears". In some cases, particularly in the case of street wardens, suitably trained staff can be accredited, by me, with additional powers under the Police Reform Act, to assist them become more effective in the tasks they carry out on your behalf.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Chief Constable David Coleman, QPM, BA(Hons)
 Constabulary Headquarters Butterley Hall Ripley Derbyshire DE5 3RS

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Awarded for excellence

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In the first instance I propose, subject to your support being forthcoming, to carry out an audit of exactly who is "out there" representing the various partners, on a day-to-day basis, so that together we are all able to have an appreciation of the "family" as it currently exists. Following that process, I would hope to have further discussions with the relevant bodies to explore how, for example, the Constabulary could offer training and support to front line staff to assist them in contributing to improved community safety. Just to be absolutely clear, this is **emphatically not** about expecting members of partners' staff to confront offenders, place themselves in any danger, or breach any confidentiality rules. I should be grateful to receive responses from LSP's to the following questions:

- Would you and your constituent organisations wish to engage in further discussions to explore the potential for developing the "wider policing family" in Derby and Derbyshire?
- Are you prepared, either collectively or as individual agencies, to co-operate in an audit as described above?
(If so, could each agency please nominate a member of staff as a contact point for further discussion on the detail of the process?)
- Have you any specific concerns about the proposals?
- Would you like to receive further information in advance of a further discussion?
- Do you have any suggestions as to the categories of staff who may have a part to play?

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)

There is a plethora of CCTV systems around the County and City, developed in piecemeal fashion over the years, to a multiplicity of different standards, in different kinds of ownership, and supported by different funding regimes. Some systems are of extremely high quality, others less so. You will all be well aware that monitoring these systems has been particularly problematic over the years, mostly due to lack of finance. The result is that some systems are very well monitored at present, and therefore are highly effective proactive tools for tackling crime and disorder. Others, however, are rarely, if ever monitored, and whilst their product can often provide useful evidence in investigations after the event, they are ineffective as a preventive tool.

Co-ordination of the widespread presence and proactive use of CCTV would provide all the partners with massive opportunities to prevent, reduce and detect crime, and, I believe, represents one of the areas of greatest potential to deliver on our Crime And Disorder targets. There are substantial financial and public confidence gains to be made in, for example, reducing damage to public property and buildings, controlling anti-social behaviour and public disorder, and drug dealing. The presence and proactive use of CCTV in residential areas, for example, has been shown to be highly effective in reducing anti-social behaviour, and in reducing the fear of crime amongst vulnerable members of the community. The business community can also benefit substantially from proactive use of CCTV, and, given how important local crime levels are as a factor in decisions about business relocation and investment, improved use of CCTV to reduce crime against businesses could have a substantial effect in the economic well being of the whole community. Linked, as it now can be, with wider use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition, (ANPR), CCTV presents a powerful tool for tackling criminals who use the roads, with some quite astounding results now being achieved nationally by dedicated police teams supported by well-managed public CCTV systems.

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In conjunction with the Derbyshire Police Authority, I am currently setting up a project to plan and develop a new operational Command and Control centre for Derbyshire Constabulary, to provide a "fit for purpose" facility for foreseeable future needs. This is of course subject to feasibility, but I believe that alongside this project, the Partnership Forum is presented with an ideal opportunity to consider developing a multi-agency receiving and monitoring facility for CCTV around the county. This, we believe, is technically feasible and would deliver many cost benefits. Clearly, at this early stage, we do not have any detailed understanding of the costs of development or staffing such a facility, but we would wish to open discussions with interested partners as to feasibility. I stress at this point that this is absolutely not intended as an attempt by the Constabulary to take over control or monitoring of CCTV systems, but, in effect, a "Best Value" approach to the management and use of CCTV by the partners, to our mutual benefit. Indeed there is no vital necessity for any future facility to be located adjacent to the Constabulary's Command and Control centre, although clearly there would be benefits in terms of resilience, timeliness of response, and joint operations. I would envisage the CCTV centre, should we achieve it, being operated under a Multi-agency Management Board.

Again, as a precursor to further discussion, I feel it would be helpful to carry out an audit of precisely what systems exist and the relevant technical and management circumstances of each, as a benchmark against which to decide the way forward. I should be pleased to receive, therefore, your responses to the following questions:

- Are you and your constituent organisations interested in further discussions on this proposal?
- Do any of your constituent organisations own/operate a CCTV system?
- Are you jointly or individually prepared to engage in a preliminary audit of system coverage?
- If so, would you please nominate relevant contact points for further development of the audit.

I apologise for the length of this letter, but I felt there was a need to provide sufficient information to enable partners to consider the impact of the proposals. As Crime and Community Safety Champion, I feel that these opportunities need to be fully developed if we are to continue to deliver the desired outputs through the Derbyshire Community Plan. For ease of response I have attached a proforma for completion. I recognise the pressures of time on many partner agencies but I do urge you to contribute to the debate. If any of your constituent organisations would like to complete the proforma individually, then please feel free to forward them a copy. In these cases, completed proformas should be returned to my PA, Deana Wheatley, at the above address.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



David Coleman
Chief Constable

cc: District, County and City Council Chief Executives
Chairs of CDRPs
Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Derbyshire Police Authority, Clerk to the Authority
Divisional Commanders



Derbyshire Constabulary

CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Completed by: _____ Date: _____

Organisation: _____

Email address: _____

Please answer the questions below by placing a ✓ in the relevant box:

Part 1

1) Would you and your constituent organisations wish to engage in further discussions to explore the potential for developing the 'wider policing family' in Derby and Derbyshire?

Yes

No

2) Are you prepared to co-operate in an audit as described above?

Yes

No

If answered 'yes', could you please nominate a member of staff as a contact point for further discussion on the detail of the process:

Name of contact: _____

Tel No: _____

Email address: _____

3) Have you any specific concerns about the proposals?

Yes

No

If answered 'yes', please provide details:

4) Would you like to receive further information in advance of a further discussion?

Yes

No

5) Do you have any suggestions as to the categories of staff who may have a part to play?

Yes

No

If answered 'yes', please provide details:

Part 2 – Closed Circuit Television

1) Are you and your constituent organisations interested in further discussions on this proposal?

Yes

No

2) Do any of your constituent organisations own/operate a CCTV system?

Yes

No

If answered 'yes', please provide details:

3) Are you jointly or individually prepared to engage in a preliminary audit of system coverage?

Yes

No

If answered 'yes', could you please nominate a relevant contact point for further development of the audit:

Name of contact: _____

Tel No: _____

Email address: _____

Any other comments:

Thank you for your co-operation – please return in the pre-paid envelope supplied.

