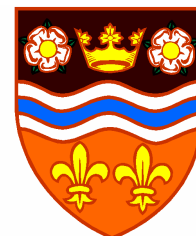


PRESS STATEMENT



HUMBERSIDE
POLICE AUTHORITY

Ref: 129-ppaf
Date: 24TH October 2006

EMBARGOED UNTIL 10.00AM 24TH OCTOBER 2006

POLICE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS – RESPONSE FROM HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY

Commenting on the Police Performance Assessments published by the Home Office today (Tuesday, 24th October), Chairman of HumberSide Police Authority, Cllr Graham Stroud said: “It is important that we look at these in context. Last year the Authority asked the force to concentrate on reducing and investigating crime. Since then, performance in these areas has improved, as the assessments illustrate.

“I would like to acknowledge the dedication of HumberSide’s police officers and staff who have worked incredibly hard on the key areas of crime reduction and crime investigation to good effect.

Commenting on the areas where improvements are necessary, namely ‘Providing Assistance’ and ‘Local Policing’, Cllr Stroud said: “The Authority will be asking the senior officer team to look at these areas as a matter of urgency.

“In respect of Providing Assistance, we feel sure that significant improvements can be made in the near future, and are aware that the force is currently visiting other forces to see best practice elsewhere. As soon as this work commences we anticipate seeing some very swift results indeed.

“Neighbourhood Policing is a priority area and will address many of the issues surrounding Local Policing. We are pushing for more Neighbourhood Policing Officers and feel sure that as people see more officers on the beat they will feel more reassured.

“The Authority has always accepted that it would be unrealistic to expect dramatic improvements across the board and we know that there are areas that still need attention, but we firmly believe that if we get the basics right, then improvements in other areas will naturally follow.

“In support of this we have, as part of the strategic priorities for 2006/07, asked the force to improve how calls from the public are handled and to implement a system for investigating crime that ensures, when evidence exists, that the offender is identified and dealt with promptly.

“There are some serious challenges to be faced and we are under no illusion that there is an easy fix. However, we are sure that the improvements seen to date will be sustained and continued.”

ENDS

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