



WHAT IS AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AUTHORITY?

The Police Authority comprises 17 men and women who make sure the police force is efficient and effective and delivers the kind of service that local people want.

They do this by:

- Appointing the Chief Constable, Deputy Chief Constable, Assistant Chief Constables and Strategic Directors.
- Ensuring that there are effective arrangements for consulting local communities about policing.
- Setting the annual budget for the force.
- Agreeing the police part of the local council tax, approving the final accounts and ensuring adequate and effective internal audit.
- Publishing a three year Strategic Plan and an Annual Policing Plan, in collaboration with the Chief Constable.
- Monitoring the operational and financial performance of the force during the year.
- Publishing an annual report on the extent to which the force achieved the objectives in the policing plan.
- Improving efficiency, effectiveness and economy in local policing.

The Police Authority comprises councillors, magistrates and independent members.

The Authority's business is conducted through full authority meetings and a range of committees, with each member sitting on a number of committees.

The Police Authority committees are:

- Performance and Audit Committee
- Finance Committee
- Capital Asset Management Sub-Committee
- Human Resources Committee
- Professional Standards Sub-Committee
- Standards Committee
- Appointments Committee
- Remuneration Sub-Committee

The Committees and Members are supported by the Chief Executive, the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer and Police Authority Office staff, including Policy Officers, Administrative Officers and Members' Support Officers.

Members also represent the Authority in several other ways, including at Constabulary and other policing groups, on national and local bodies such as the Association of Police Authorities and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. They also meet and consult with their communities.

As a guideline Members are expected to carry out a day and a half's work for the Police Authority each week, for which an allowance and expenses are paid.

More information on the role and work of Avon and Somerset Police Authority can be found by visiting www.aspola.org.uk. The website provides more details on dates and times of meetings, important documents and work currently being undertaken.

Alternatively you can call 01275 816377.

