



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec: 10\3218

30th April 2010

Dear Mr Easton

To ask the Minister for Justice to outline his plans to get more Police Officers on to the beat. 6290/10

The above mentioned question was placed before the Minister for Justice, who has deemed that this is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Therefore the Chief Constable has been asked to respond directly.

It is the ambition of the Police Service of Northern Ireland to be the finest personal, professional and protective police service in the World. The Chief Constable is determined that community policing is the means to achieve this.

The PSNI is currently undertaking an internal review aimed at identifying those officers available for redeployment for front line duties. One of the targets for successful implementation is 600 additional and sustainable officers in response & neighbourhood policing by 31 March 2011. As of 31 March 2010, an additional 365 officers have been deployed to response and neighbourhood policing duties. These extra officers have been involved in tackling burglary, violent crime, improving road safety and addressing incidents of anti-social behaviour. As a consequence the monthly crime figures for January and February 2010 were the lowest for 12 years.

However, this is an ongoing process, and with the development during 2010/2011 of PSNI Commitments, call back procedures and survey data regarding confidence levels, we will be able to better gauge the direct impact that our officers are making in our communities. This, alongside the roll out of mobile data solutions will free up more of our officers' time to provide a more visible presence in our communities.

All of these efforts are reflected in the new Annual Policing Plan which can be found at http://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/final_pdf_-_policing_plan_2010-2013_b_.pdf

Please be advised that a copy of this letter will be placed in the Library of the Northern Ireland Assembly. If you have any queries regarding this response


Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE
Telephone: 028 90700006, Fax: 028 90700124



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please address your correspondence to Command Secretariat, PSNI
Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,


JOHN MCCAUGHAN
Superintendent
for Chief Constable

Mr Alex Easton MLA
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST BT4 3XX