



An open letter

from
Chief Superintendent Richard Johnson

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BASSETLAW EDITION

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Since my last letter, the Home Secretary has put forward his proposal to create an East Midlands police service.

The plan is to combine Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire police forces into one.

The purpose is to create bigger forces with the capacity to protect the public from serious and organised crime and terrorism, while continuing to deliver local services.

Police Authorities are currently considering volunteering for amalgamation and must decide by 7 April. Nottinghamshire Police Authority meets on 4 April when they will make their decision.

I have always maintained that whilst I am in support of bigger forces to increase resilience, any national restructure must not affect local policing.

Please remember that this is a national restructure, not a local one. I will continue to keep you updated.

Church burglar jailed for five years

You may recall in January we suffered a series of church burglaries in which money from collection boxes was stolen. In Bassetlaw, we had offences reported in Treswell, Tuxford, Normanton-on-Trent, North Leverton, Sutton-on-Trent, Low Marnham and Clarborough. The offender, Christopher Coulthard aged 43, has been jailed for five years for committing more than 75 church offences across seven different counties.

Information from the public was of great assistance to us at the time in order to trace Coulthard's movements.

It is disgraceful that somebody should prey on churches to steal money, which is donated towards worthy causes in this country and abroad. I am very pleased that the sentence reflects the cruelty of his crimes. If you require any crime prevention advice for your local church please contact our Crime Reduction Manager Janet Newton on 01909 500999 ext 3283.

Continuing to tackle anti-social behaviour

Officers in Worksop have secured a two-year Anti-Social Behaviour Order against a 13-year-old teenager.

Richard Mason, of Keswick Road, Worksop had been causing nuisance and damage on Eskdale Drive. He appeared before Worksop Youth Court and was given the order, as well as a curfew monitored by an electronic tag.

We currently have another seven ASBO applications underway in Worksop and Retford. ASBOs place specific conditions on the individual such as not to enter certain places or not to associate with certain people. Breach of an ASBO is a criminal offence and results in the individual being put before the court – repeated breaches can lead to a jail sentence.



We currently have a number of anti-social behaviour patrols and operations taking place across Bassetlaw. If you would like to talk to your local officer about an issue in your area please call 01909 500999 or find their details on our website at www.nottinghamshire.police.uk.

PC Bill Brown

You may know PC Bill Brown, our Partnerships Officer. Bill left the force at the end of March to start a new job as a national security advisor.

Bill was with the force for more than 30 years and was instrumental in setting up community initiatives such as Community Speedwatch, the Sherwood Project and the SAFE scheme.

We wish him all the best for the future and I am sure his excellent work will continue through our new Partnerships Officer Melissa Pickance, who joins us after previously working in the city as a Crime Reduction Manager.

Melissa is not beginning her new role until later this month so in the meantime if you have any issues to raise please contact Inspector Jill Davies on 01909 500999 ext 3280.

Bassetlaw crime figures for February 2006

West Bassetlaw (Worksop area)

Crime type	Reported incidents in February 06	Reported incidents in February 05
All Crime	446	480
Violence	101	91
House burglary	33	9
Shed burglary	10	15
Theft from vehicle	35	87
Theft of vehicle	13	22

East Bassetlaw (Retford area)

Crime type	Reported incidents in February 06	Reported incidents in February 05
All Crime	503	432
Violence	80	82
House burglary	26	12
Shed burglary	33	29
Theft from vehicle	65	60
Theft of vehicle	20	30

**Divisional Commander for Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood
Chief Superintendent Richard Johnson**

