

# Dorset Police and Crime Plan sets priorities for five years



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VICTIMS of crime should have more say in the way offenders are dealt with, says Dorset's Police and Crime Commissioner Martyn Underhill.

He also wants to recruit an extra 250 Special Constables to create a more visible police force.



Dorset police and Crime Commissioner Martyn Underhill

And he aims to introduce Clare's Law in Dorset to enable people to check if their partner has a violent past.

The objectives are part of Mr Underhill's Police and Crime Plan for Dorset that was being presented to the county's Police and Crime Panel yesterday, Thursday.

The document set out Mr Underhill's priorities for the force for the next five years.

They include reducing the number of victims of crime and people seriously harmed, reducing re-offending and the support of neighbourhood policing.

Mr Underhill said: "We are living in difficult times economically and Dorset Police has taken its share of cuts.

"However, it is my priority to maintain an efficient and effective force which understands and responds to the needs of the community. I want to create a more visible force which operates in the heart of the community, fighting crime and providing reassurance to communities."

Mr Underhill the force had identified anti-social behaviour, domestic violence, serious sexual offences, dwelling burglaries and alcohol-related violence as major issues. They will be reflected in the priorities of the Community Safety Partnerships for the coming year.

His draft plan, which sets out police priorities for the next five years, was drawn up in consultation with the force, the public, partners, stakeholders and victims.

Mr Underhill has already pledged to give residents a bigger role in setting policing priorities. He is organising forums, surgeries and online surveys.

The first forum is being held at Shaftesbury on 22nd March.

Mr Underhill said: "My vision is for a Dorset where people feel safe, both at home and in the community.

"I want to see people working together to prevent crime."

Read more: <http://www.thisisdorset.co.uk/Dorset-Police-Crime-Plan-sets-priorities-years/story-18089940-detail/story.html#ixzz2LFCrIFNk>

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