



Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner **STAFFORDSHIRE**

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BUSINESS PEOPLE WANTED FOR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD PANELS

East Staffordshire business people are being offered the chance to play a vital role in local policing in their communities.

They are invited to become members of their local Safer Neighbourhood Panels to hold the Local Policing Team Commander to account as well as look at wider criminal justice and community safety issues in their area.

Application forms are available for people who are interested in joining the panel, including those who work in the business or the voluntary sectors.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire Matthew Ellis, who launched the Safer Neighbourhood Panels, said: "This is a real opportunity for business people to play a part in holding those responsible for policing in their area to account and I urge them to get involved.

"I make no apology for believing that truly local policing, and the public playing a part in influencing that, is vital.

"You can shape policing at the most local level in your community by joining a Safer Neighbourhood Panel.

"The spotlight on local policing performance that these panels brings is invaluable in adding to the rigour I have introduced to overseeing policing."

The Safer Neighbourhood Panels have been established in Tamworth, Stoke-on-Trent, Cannock, Lichfield, Newcastle, Stafford, South Staffordshire and Staffordshire Moorlands. East Staffordshire is the latest Safer Neighbourhood Panel to have been launched.

Local residents and councillors sit on the panels, but in some areas the business sector is currently under-represented. The Safer Neighbourhood Panels influence local policing and community safety, scrutinise the work done by police in their area, give feedback to communities and examine the impact of community resolutions and restorative justice.

PCC Matthew Ellis is determined to end the perception that crimes against local businesses are "victimless" and has launched the Business Crime Matters strategy to make sure businesses get the best information to help them avoid becoming victims of crime.

Telephone 01785 232498/232270

www.staffordshire-pcc.gov.uk

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More information about the Business Crime Matters strategy can be found at www.businesscrimematters.com

The PCC is interested in attracting people from all walks of life who are able to represent the views from a business perspective. Travel expenses will be paid.

Anyone interested in applying to join their local Safer Neighbourhood panel should register their interest at www.staffordshire-pcc.gov.uk/safer-neighbourhood-panels/

Ends

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