

Policing in Southampton

Hampshire Police Authority is an independent organisation and exists to ensure the communities of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight receive an effective, efficient and high quality policing service. Day-to-day policing is provided by Hampshire Constabulary, under the guidance of Chief Constable Alex Marshall. It is the role of the Authority to ensure Hampshire Constabulary plays its part in making the two counties places which feel safe and are safe.

Policing priorities

Each year, Hampshire Police Authority and Hampshire Constabulary must together produce a Policing Plan, which sets out how policing is going to be carried out during the following 12 months. Within this year's Policing Plan, there are six policing priorities:

- **Providing an excellent service** – improving our response to calls from the public, listening and responding to local concerns, acting on feedback;
- **Catching criminals and managing offenders** – putting the victim first and protecting vulnerable people;
- **An active presence in every neighbourhood** – working with communities to build and maintain neighbourhoods where people are safe and feel safe;
- **Protecting our communities** – protecting from terrorism and domestic extremism and preparing for emergencies and major incidents;
- **Making the most of our resources** – being efficient and actively controlling our spending to make the most effective use of public money;
- **Equipping our team to deliver** – putting the right people in the right place at the right time.

A full copy of the Policing Plan can be found at www.hampshirepoliceauthority.org or by calling the Police Authority offices.

How have your police performed?

This summary is designed to provide an honest, balanced snapshot of crime and policing in Southampton. However, the targets shown in this report are just a brief insight into the performance of the police. People should also want to know:

- Who are the local Safer Neighbourhood officers?
- What are the local policing priorities, and are they being met?
- What Government targets are the police trying to meet?
- Is Hampshire Constabulary signed up to, and achieving the targets in, the Policing Pledge?

More information can be found on Hampshire Constabulary's website: www.hampshire.police.uk



“People’s confidence in their police service is often based on their experiences, and those of their family, friends and colleagues. However, if they have not needed to be in contact with the police, how do they know their local officers are doing their jobs well? This summary provides people with a snapshot of crime in their local area, and how well the police are tackling it.

“Where crime is going down, the Authority congratulates officers for their hard work, but where crime is going up, our members will work on behalf of the public to scrutinise the reasons why, and to make sure the performance improves in future years.”

Councillor Jacqui Rayment,
Chair, Hampshire Police Authority

The cost of policing in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight

The expenditure of the Hampshire Police Authority for 2009/10 was £292.0m. The audit opinion will be made available in September and will be published on our website: www.hampshirepoliceauthority.org. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact Hampshire Police Authority on 01962 871595 for a hard copy. You can find details of how the police use their budget on www.hampshire.police.uk.

What are the facts?

Number of crimes

2007/08 35,350 2008/09 33,451

This shows a reduction of 5.37% (or 1899 crimes) in the total number of crimes reported in Southampton, compared with a reduction across Hampshire Constabulary of 2.89% (or 4749 crimes).

Percentage of all crimes detected

2007/08 26% 2008/09 24.1%

This shows that 24.1% of all crimes in Southampton were detected, compared with a detection rate of 25.2% across Hampshire Constabulary.

Number of house burglaries

2007/08 998 2008/09 935

This shows a reduction of 5.3% (or 53 crimes) in the total number of house burglaries reported in Southampton, compared to an increase across Hampshire Constabulary of 13.7% (or 728 crimes).

Resident's satisfaction with service received from the police

2007/08 54%
2008/09 61%

Chief Superintendent Matthew Greening, Commander of Southampton Operational Command Unit says:

“I could fill this page with more statistics about how crime is down and Southampton is safer and they would be true. However, without suggesting any political affiliation, I agree with the government that it's really important how people feel about the service we give. People's perceptions of safety can be greatly affected by relatively rare events or big media stories, but I am happy to commit to working harder on improving what people think of their police service in Southampton. Of course, we will still be reducing crime more and catching more criminals, but we'll also put greater emphasis on having a better presence in every part of the city and delivering a better service in all we do.

“I am very proud to be the Southampton Police Commander. I have worked here from Constable to Chief Superintendent and I hope to remain as your Police Commander for as long as I continue to make the city safer.”

The Police Authority says:

“Policing a major city such as Southampton has its own unique challenges, and requires a different approach to many of the more rural areas covered by Hampshire Constabulary. However, some principles of policing remain the same wherever you are. More than three in five people in the city are satisfied with the service they receive from the police, but it is not as high as elsewhere in the two counties.”

“Serious violent crime and serious acquisitive crime, such as vehicle crime, robberies and burglaries, have gone down after a strong effort by everyone involved in community safety, not just the police, and that is something that should be congratulated. On the other hand, the authority would like to see greater progress being made in the detection of hate crimes, a particularly important area when taking into consideration the cultural make-up of the city.”

Contact us

In an emergency, always dial 999.

To contact Hampshire Constabulary for non-emergencies, dial 0845 045 45 45 or 101 www.hampshire.police.uk

To contact Hampshire Police Authority, dial 01962 871595 www.hampshirepoliceauthority.org.

Other useful contacts

Southampton City Council	023 8022 3855	www.southampton.gov.uk
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	www.crimestoppers-uk.org
Victim Support Line	023 8023 7348	www.victimsupport.org.uk

