

Cheshire Hate Crime Scrutiny and Involvement Panel

Draft Terms of Reference

The purpose of Scrutiny and Involvement Panel is to provide the key local community engagement mechanism for the Area.

The Panel will support the Cheshire Constabulary in progressing 'Challenge it, Report it, Stop it – The Government's Plan to Tackle Hate Crime' and encourage greater community involvement, increased transparency and more meaningful scrutiny. It will provide a clear mechanism to ensure that local crime and anti social behaviour concerns are identified and prioritised.

The Panel will be a partnership working together to improve the way in which the Service meets its core aims: to protect the public, support victims and witnesses and bring offenders to justice or offer other long term problem solving outcomes.

The Panel will meet on a bi-monthly basis.

The overarching aims of the Panel are to:

- Ensure that Cheshire police considers the views of communities in order to identify local concerns.
- Undertake scrutiny of Hate Crimes/incidents and cases of local interest to improve local performance and support victims and witnesses effectively.
- To pro-actively initiate contact with minority groups and identify issues affecting them.
- Increase victim and community confidence in the criminal justice system by:
 - Doing what matters to the Victim
 - Doing what matters to the Community
 - Doing whatever is in the best interest of the Offender
 - Doing what is in the Public Interest