



About Surrey Police Authority

Surrey Police Authority is an independent body, made up of local people, which exists to make sure that Surrey residents have an efficient, effective and locally accountable police force.

Our role is to represent the interests of all local people, businesses and communities in our work with Surrey Police. There are 43 police authorities in England and Wales – one for each police force - and our key responsibilities are laid down by Parliament.

Our Key Responsibilities

The Authority:

Holds the police budget and decides how much council tax should be raised for policing

Appoints (and dismisses) the Chief Constable and senior police officers

Consults widely with local people to find out what they want from their local police force

Sets local policing priorities based on what local people say matters to them and targets for achievement

Monitors everything the police does and how well they perform against the targets set by the Authority

Publishes a Local Policing Plan which tells local people what they can expect from their police service and reports back at the end of the year on progress made

- Makes sure local people get best value from their local police
- Oversees complaints against the police and disciplines senior officers.
- Administers the Independent Custody Visitor Scheme.

Surrey Police Authority sets the strategic direction for the Force and holds the Chief Constable to account on behalf of the local community. We do not get involved with operational policing. That is the role of the Chief Constable.



Who We Are

There are 17 Members of Surrey Police Authority. All Members live or work in Surrey and are required to be representative of, and in sympathy with, the range of communities that make up the county. The Authority currently comprises nine elected councillors appointed by Surrey County Council and eight independent members of the public, one of whom has to be a serving magistrate.

Independent Custody Visitors

There are 4 custody suites across the county served by 4 custody visitor panels made up of approx 48 volunteers.

The Authority is based at Surrey Police Headquarters in Guildford. Members are supported by a secretariat comprising a Chief Executive and a small team of staff including a part-time ICV Scheme Manager.