

Proposed Rural Policing Cuts.....

Lancashire Constabulary propose to close the Police Station at Broughton, not replace PCs Ian Zinella and John McCartney (when he retires in November). This will leave one policeman and two PCSOs to cover a large rural area including seven villages and the Beacon Fell area. The remaining staff to be based in the centre of Preston. With the daily traffic problems at Broughton traffic lights and M55 roundabout, the area would be left with little protection.

The area has already seen two police offices (Woodplumpton and Goosnargh) closed, and PC Ian Zinella has not been replaced. The area cannot sustain further cuts.

It is hoped a public meeting, possibly a Rural Area Forum Meeting, will be arranged shortly to discuss with Lancashire Constabulary the proposed cuts to rural policing. The meeting will be publicised as widely as possible with door to door leaflets where possible, text, email, posters etc. Please, please try and support this meeting, even if you've already attended another. It is important the police are made aware of the strength of feeling in the area

What we want :- Broughton Police Station to remain open

PC John McCartney to be replaced (giving two police officers)

2 PCSOs to be kept

Why we want it :- a) large rural area, difficult to police, requiring detailed local knowledge.

b) traffic problems at Broughton roundabout and the surrounding area mean access would be difficult for several hours a day, and vast amounts of police time would be wasted travelling to and from a station in the City centre, leaving little "on the ground" policing.

c) Broughton Police Station is well used. The volunteers at Broughton do considerable back-up work for the police. This would also be lost.

If you want to write letters:-

Chief constable Steve Finnigan, Lancashire Constabulary Headquarters, Saunders Lane, Hutton, Preston, Lancashire PR4 5SA. Tel: 0845 1253545 ...

Copies to: Prime Minister, Mr David Cameron, 10 Downing Street, London, SW1A 2AA

Ben Wallace MP, Top Floor, Village Centre, 59 High Street, Great Eccleston, PR3 0YB

Nigel Evans MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Commander James Leigh, Preston Police Headquarters, Lancaster Rd, Preston, PR1 2SA

Cllr Neil Cartwright, 19 Harrison Road, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9QH