NORTHUMBRIA POLICE
CHIEF CONSTABLE'S OFFICE

POLICE AUTHORITY

Wednesday 24 July 2002

Report of the Chief Constable

NON EXEMPT

1 LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

In the quarter ended 30 June 2002, 325 letters were received expressing appreciation for assistance given by members of the force, compared to 361 in the same period of the previous year.

Category	*01.04.02 to 30.06.02*	*01.04.01 to 30.06.01*
From relatives for assistance following a bereavement	16	25
From motorists	27	10
From persons injured in criminal activities	17	18
For assistance concerning juveniles	14	20
For assistance in the organisation of public events	27	11
For assistance involving security	9	6
In connection with missing persons	5	6
In connection with the handling of offenders	16	22
For public lectures and demonstrations	11	27
In connection with the rescue of persons	4	4
Assistance to other official departments	51	54
For charitable donations	27	27
Miscellaneous	101	131
Total:	**325**	**361**

2 RECRUITMENT AND LEAVERS - REGULAR FORCE 1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2002

Recruitments

Recruits	86	(62 M/Con, 24 F/Con)
Transfers	8	(6 M/Con, 2 F/Con)
Rejoins	0	
Total	**94**	

Leavers

Resignations	5	(2 M/Con, 3 F/Con)
Required to resign	0	
Retired - Age	4	(3 M/Con, 1 M/Sgt)
Medical Pension	3	(3 M/Con)
Injury Pension	2	(2 M/Con)
Voluntary	19	(12 M/Con, 5 M/Sgt, 1 M/CI, 1 M/Supt)
Career Break	2	(1 M/Con, 1 F/Con)
Transferred	2	(1 M/Sgt, 1 F/Con)
Died	0	
Dismissed	1	(1 M/Con)
Total	**38**	

Establishment, Strength and Vacancies at 30 June 2002

(i) Authorised Establishment (excluding columns (ii) and (iii))	(ii) Supernumerary Authorised by Home Office	(iii) Recruitable Secondments	(iv) Authorised Establishment (including columns (ii) and (iii))	(v) Actual Strength (including columns (ii) and (iii))	(vi) Number above authorised establishment
3791	-	81	3872	4021	149

In addition appointments have been offered to 65 people.

3 SUPPORT STAFF ESTABLISHMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 2002

CATEGORY	AUTHORISED ESTABLISHMENT			ACTUAL STRENGTH			VACANCIES		
	FULL TIME	PART TIME	TOTAL	FULL TIME	PART TIME	TOTAL	FULL TIME	PART TIME	TOTAL
SUPPORT STAFF	1424.9	53	1477.9	1381.9	52.4	1434.3	43	0.6	43.6
TRAFFIC WARDENS	72	0	72	65	0	65	7	0	7
TOTALS	1496.9	53	1549.9	1446.9	52.4	1499.3	50	0.6	50.6
SECONDMENTS				0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS				1446.9	52.4	1499.3	50	0.6	50.6

4 PROMOTIONS - 1 TO 30 JUNE 2002

The following promotions have taken place during the period 1 to 30 June 2002:

	Male	*Female*
To Sergeant	7	3
To Inspector	1	

Sergeant 3520 C Mann

To Chief Inspector

Nil

To Superintendent

Nil

To Chief Superintendent

Nil

5 SECONDMENTS

Approval is sought for the following Home Office funded secondments which are subject to the provisions of the Police Act 1996, Section 97, Part 3, Paragraphs A and B.

i) Centrex

Constable 8622 A Templeman - 3 year secondment commencing 18 July 2002.

Constable 3316 J Thompson - extension until 11 February 2003, of an existing secondment which began on 25 October 1999 and was due to end on 25 October 2002.

ii) National Crime Squad

Detective Constable 1575 A Bowron - extension until 1 December 2003, of an existing secondment which began on 1 December 1997 and was due to end on 1 December 2002.

iii) HM Inspector of Constabulary

Temporary Superintendent 7374 D Kendall - extension until 23 April 2004, of an existing secondment which began on 23 April 2001 and was due to end on 23 April 2003.

RECOMMENDATION

That the secondments detailed above be approved.

6 VISIT TO BERWICK, PENNSYLVANIA, USA - SERGEANT 505 M BAYLIS, CONSTABLE 2577 K MARCHANT AND CONSTABLE 2516 R STUBBING

An invitation has been received from the Berwick Borough Community UK for three local community police officers to join them in an exchange visit to Berwick, Pennsylvania, USA. The invitation follows development of strong community links and involvement in the Berwick area, in support of community and partnership based problem solving policing.

The officers will have the opportunity to examine the community and partnership policing approach in Berwick, Pennsylvania in order to identify areas of best practice, and to further develop strong community links.

The officers will be guests of Pennsylvania officers and will cover incidental expenses themselves. The only cost to the Authority will be flight costs of £418 per officer, a total of £1,254. The visit is scheduled to take place between 18 October 2002 and 25 October 2002.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are requested to give their approval for Sergeant 505 M Baylis, Constable 2577 K Marchant and Constable 2516 R Stubbing to visit Berwick, Pennsylvania, USA between 18 October 2002 and 25 October 2002.

7 **NORTH EAST AIR SUPPORT UNIT**

PROGRESS REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2002

During the period April to June 2002, the North East Air Support Unit responded to 1706 incidents from which there were 279 arrests.

There were 29 occasions when air support was denied.

A selection of noteworthy incidents is attached at Appendix 'A'.

North East Air Support Unit

Summary of Noteworthy Incidents

Total Flying Hours

Helicopter Flying Hours April to June 2002 - Total Flying Hours	352
Budget	318
Fixed Wing Flying Hours April to June 2002 - Total Flying Hours	253
Budget	250

Date	Hours	Incident	Time of Task	Result
12/04/02	15:45	The helicopter crew attended the scene of a large fire at industrial premises in North Tyneside.	3 hours	Video downlink was provided for commanders at the scene and in the communications centre. The crew assisted in the co-ordination of emergency services resources.
14/04/02	23:05	The aeroplane was used to co-ordinate a search with police and a search and rescue team for a missing person in South Cleveland.	45 minutes	The missing person was detected by the thermal imager, officers were directed and she was assisted to safety .
22/04/02	11:55	The helicopter was engaged in a search for suspects responsible for burglary and abandoning a stolen vehicle in Gateshead East.	30 minutes	The crew tracked a suspect from the vehicle and directed area officers who arrested him for theft and burglary. Stolen property was recovered from the vehicle.
27/04/02	22:40	The aeroplane crew searched an area in Middlesbrough for a suspect responsible for a burglary.	25 minutes	The thermal imager detected a heat source in undergrowth. A police dog section officer was directed and one man arrested for burglary.
28/04/02	21:00	The aeroplane crew searched a large open area in Teesdale for people who were lost on the moors.	35 minutes	Two members of a group were sighted from the air and officers alerted to assist them to safety.
01/05/02	02:45	The helicopter crew assisted in a search for a vehicle stolen from a farm in North Northumberland .	35 minutes	The crew sighted a vehicle being pursued by a member of the public. Officers were directed and two men were arrested for theft.

Date	Hours	Incident	Time of Task	Result
05/05/02	16:10	The helicopter crew was requested to search an area of Sunderland for robbery suspects in a motor vehicle.	40 minutes	The crew tracked a vehicle through streets and off the road until it was abandoned. Area officers were directed and two suspects were arrested for robbery.
11/05/02	10:00	The helicopter deployed, at the request of motor patrols officers, to the scene of a serious road traffic collision in Weardale.	25 minutes	One seriously injured casualty and a paramedic were airlifted by the helicopter crew to hospital in Newcastle.
16/05/02	19:50	The aeroplane carried out a search in Stockton for a suspect wanted for a robbery.	15 minutes	The crew sighted a suspect in a street. Officers were directed and a man was arrested for robbery. An imitation firearm was seized.
18/05/02	17:35	The aeroplane crew searched in Wear and Tees Division, Durham Constabulary, following a report of two men in open land with firearms.	20 minutes	The crew located two suspects. Armed response officers were directed and two men were arrested for firearms offences. Weapons and ammunition were recovered.
24/05/02	02:55	The helicopter attended Chester-le-Street to search for a man who was believed to be armed with a knife.	20 minutes	The crew detected a heat source in bushes and directed officers who arrested a suspect for aggravated burglary.
29/05/02	21:00	The aeroplane attended the Gateshead West area to search for suspects responsible for a burglary.	40 minutes	One suspect, running across fields, was sighted by the crew who landed nearby. An observer gave chase and arrested the man who was handed over to area officers.
17/06/02	10:10	The helicopter stolen vehicle tracker system was used to search for a vehicle in Darlington which had been stolen locally.	40 minutes	The vehicle, valued at £30,000 was located in North Yorkshire by the helicopter crew who directed a motor patrols officer to recover it.
18/06/02	03:40	The aeroplane was tasked to search for suspects responsible for a burglary in Middlesbrough.	35 minutes	The thermal imager was used to detect a vehicle in a field. Two occupants of the vehicle were arrested for burglary.
26/06/02	10:05	The helicopter crew directed armed response vehicle officers in Durham and Northumbria to intercept a vehicle containing a suspect.	55 minutes	The crew provided commentary and video downlink until the vehicle was stopped and a suspect was arrested for a serious offence in another force area.