
**NORTHUMBRIA POLICE
CHIEF CONSTABLE'S OFFICE**



POLICE AUTHORITY

Wednesday 23 July 2003

Report of the Chief Constable

NON EXEMPT

1 LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

In the quarter ended 30 June 2003, 255 letters were received expressing appreciation for assistance given by members of the force, compared to 325 in the same period of the previous year.

<i>Category</i>	<i>01.04.03 to 30.06.03</i>	<i>01.04.02 to 30.06.02</i>
From relatives for assistance following a bereavement	9	16
From motorists	15	27
From persons injured in criminal activities	10	17
For assistance concerning juveniles	7	14
For assistance in the organisation of public events	15	27
For assistance involving security	6	9
In connection with missing persons	0	5
In connection with the handling of offenders	10	16
For public lectures and demonstrations	13	11
In connection with the rescue of persons	1	4
Assistance to other official departments	43	51
For charitable donations	24	27
Miscellaneous	102	101
Total:	255	325

2 **NORTH EAST AIR SUPPORT UNIT**

PROGRESS REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2003

During the period April to June 2003, the North East Air Support Unit responded to 1783 incidents from which there were 267 arrests.

There were 33 occasions when air support was denied.

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

3 **SECONDMENT TO ROYAL VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE - DETECTIVE INSPECTOR A NOBLE**

Detective Inspector A Noble has been selected for a three year secondment to the Royal Virgin Islands Police, commencing on 1 October 2003.

The secondment will enhance the officers career development and allow his interpersonal skills to be used to the fullest extent. The Force will also benefit from the experience he gains.

Detective Inspector Noble's successful application is recognition of the professionalism and high standards attributed to members of this Force.

The Royal Virgin Islands Police will meet all costs, therefore there will be no costs to the Authority arising from this secondment.

RECOMMENDATION

That the secondment as outlined be approved.

North East Air Support Unit

Summary of Noteworthy Incidents

Total Flying Hours

Helicopter Flying Hours April to June 2003 - Total Flying Hours	370
Budget	318
Fixed Wing Flying Hours April to June 2003 - Total Flying Hours	325
Budget	250

Date	Hours	Incident	Time of Task	Result
05/04/03	18:10	The helicopter attended the scene of a large moor fire in North Northumberland Area Command.	45 mins	After assessing the scene, the helicopter crew landed and briefed the senior fire officer regarding the fire spread and direction of travel, and any local dangers.
18/04/03	01:25	The aeroplane deployed to a vehicle pursuit in the Durham area.	1 hour	Following abandonment of the vehicle the crew kept the suspects under observations and directed ground units to the scene where the persons were arrested.
02/05/03	09:55	The aeroplane assisted with a search for a person suspected of robbery.	15 mins	The aeroplane assisted ground units with a search of gardens for a suspect who was responsible for attacking a woman and stealing her bag. One male, concealed in a garden, was arrested by officers.
04/05/03	05:42	Whilst returning to Newcastle Airport the helicopter crew sighted a vehicle which had crashed through the airport perimeter fence.	18 mins	The crew located a person near the vehicle. He was later arrested for drink drive offences.
04/05/03	20:50	The helicopter assisted with a search for a vehicle containing a vulnerable missing person in Gateshead West Area Command.	40 mins	The crew located the vehicle and saw a hose pipe coming from the exhaust into the car. An ambulance was called and the casualty was taken to hospital.
06/05/03	00:15	The aeroplane deployed to a vehicle pursuit in Hartlepool.	20 mins	Following the abandonment of the vehicle the aircraft maintained observations on the suspects who had concealed themselves in gardens. Officers were directed and the suspects arrested.

Date	Hours	Incident	Time of Task	Result
15/05/03	20:20	The aeroplane deployed to a vehicle pursuit involving two vehicles in Middlesbrough.	45 mins	The aeroplane crew directed resources throughout a lengthy pursuit until one vehicle was abandoned. The occupants were tracked by the crew, officers directed and the suspects arrested. A further search located the second vehicle which had been abandoned.
26/05/03	03:03	The aeroplane assisted with a search for a youth on a bicycle responsible for theft from cars in Peterlee.	27 mins	The crew sighted a youth riding at speed from the housing estate. The crew followed the youth and directed officers to his location. He was arrested for theft.
27/05/03	20:35	The helicopter assisted officers in Durham with the transportation of a seriously injured woman to an ambulance.	15 mins	The aircraft landed in a location inaccessible by road and airlifted the woman, who had fallen from a horse, to an ambulance.
30/05/03	15:20	The helicopter attended the scene of a helicopter crash near the Roman Wall in South West Northumberland.	40 mins	On locating the crash site the helicopter landed and the crew carried out crash scene management in consultation with local supervision. Appropriate advice was given to fire officers. Video and photographs of the scene were completed.
02/06/03	18:55	The aeroplane carried out a search in Hartlepool for a male suspected of making threats to kill with a firearm.	40 mins	Whilst carrying out the search the crew sighted the male leaving the area in a vehicle. The crew directed resources to the vehicle and the male was arrested.

Date	Hours	Incident	Time of Task	Result
13/06/03	04:25	The aeroplane assisted with a search in Stockton for persons responsible for theft from and damage to motor vehicles.	30 mins	The crew located the suspects who then split into two groups. Contact was maintained with both groups, officers were directed and all five people were arrested.
26/06/03	15:15	The aeroplane assisted with a search of four suspects responsible for abandoning a stolen motor vehicle in Durham.	1 hr 5 mins	Officers were directed to four suspects, who were arrested.

