

# Good Scrutiny Awards 2010

Practitioner of the Year



## Merseyside Police Authority – Diane Clark

Diane is chair of the Police Authority's Performance Scrutiny and Review Committee – an independent member who has taken the initiative to expand the scope of the committee beyond the traditional focus on police performance statistics to look at more fundamental issues of crime and disorder.

### Impact

- The Chief Constable now emphasises that discretion and professionalism of service should be delivered, rather than chasing specific crime reduction or sanction detection targets.
- Running awareness workshops resulted in policy changes and consequent reductions in local crime.
- Using personal skills to place scrutiny at the centre of the improvement process, resulted in significant, tangible benefits to the local police force.
- Significant improvements in local satisfaction levels.

### Why shortlisted

- Diane demonstrates how one member can have a profound impact on the culture of a whole organisation.
- She advocates feedback from both residents and the Community Safety partnerships to ensure members are aware of community issues as part of the planning process.
- The scrutiny plan dovetails into Police Authority and Force plans allowing the committee to be fully involved in the improvement process.

“ [Diane] demonstrates effective leadership, encouraging the development and involvement of other members of the Police Authority, and advising and guiding members in an informed manner... [She has ensured] that the Police Authority focus is not just on performance statistics but encompasses the quality of service aspects that reflect the cultural changes within Force. ”

**Bernard Lawson, Deputy Chief Constable, Merseyside Police**