

## **The Police and Crime Commissioner – Denbigh and District Probus Club**

Members of the Denbigh and District Probus Club enjoyed their first meeting of the New Year in January with a wonderful meal at Tweedmill, St Asaph, followed by a talk titled **The Police and Crime Commissioner** presented by the **North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Andy Dunbobbin**.

Andy Dunbobbin is from Connah's Quay where he lives with his family. He was previously a County Councillor on Flintshire County Council for the Connah's Quay Golftyn ward and continues to be a member of Connah's Quay Town Council.

He was initially elected PCC for North Wales on 6 May 2021 and was re-elected as PCC on 2 May 2024.

Andy explained how the PCC is the local governing body for policing in our area; the role replaced the North Wales Police Authority in 2011. He has an overarching duty to secure an efficient and effective police force, which demonstrates value for money and, above all, cuts crime.

His four main duties are to:

- set out the priorities for policing in North Wales through his **Police and Crime Plan**.
- decide the budget for North Wales Police, which involves setting the recommended precept level for the approval of the Police and Crime Panel.
- hold the Chief Constable to account for the performance of the Force.
- listen and respond to the views of the public on policing.

As part of his presentation, PCC Dunbobbin went through the commissioned services and budgets for 25/26 and the Police and Crime Plan 2025-2028 priorities which include a local neighbourhood policing presence; supporting victims, communities, and businesses; and a fair and effective criminal justice system.

Andy is keen to ensure local residents get involved and outlined several engagement methods, including liaising with the local policing teams, registered social landlords and other bodies, reporting matters via 101 or 999 and contacting local councillors. He also highlighted how issues can be raised through council teams, such as housing enforcement for noise pollution, environmental services for fly-tipping or youth services for poor behaviour by young people.

He also highlighted some of the issues that have been raised by members of the public with him in North Wales, and how addressing these issues is also a priority for North Wales Police. These include:

- keeping all rural, coastal, and urban communities safe.
- meeting rising demand linked to mental health, vulnerability, and safeguarding.
- tackling violence, drugs, and exploitation affecting young people across North Wales.
- tackling shoplifting (which should be called **shop theft** as that is what it is) and abuse of retail workers.
- fraud, scams, and online crime.
- public trust, legitimacy, and confidence.
- demand outstripping capacity.
- funding and financial constraints.

The talk gave members a much clearer picture and detailed information about the role of the PCC and the activities that he undertakes.

PCC Andy Dunbobbin commented: "I was delighted to speak to Denbigh and District Probus Club about my role and the work of my Office at their recent meeting. I always enjoy getting out in communities across North Wales, and both speaking to, and hearing from, people about policing in their neighbourhoods. Clubs like Denbigh and District Probus do outstanding work in sharing information, and through involving a wide spectrum of people in their activities and I thank them for all they do."

The next Denbigh and District Probus Club meeting will be on **Monday 2nd February 2026 at Tweedmill in St Asaph**, when the speaker will be **Tim Mainland** who will give a talk titled **A Veterinary Miscellany**.

**Denbigh and District Probus Club** is a group of business or professional **women and men** either approaching or enjoying retirement or semi-retirement.

New members are always warmly welcomed to the Denbigh and District Probus Club meetings.

For further information have a look at the club web site [denbighprobus.com](http://denbighprobus.com) or contact [stevetootell@gmail.com](mailto:stevetootell@gmail.com)