

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

Wales PCC BULLETIN

No 8 – 9th May 2012

This eighth Police and Crime Commissioners Bulletin is the latest in a series of regular updates to keep you informed about developments for the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) in November 2012. This edition includes contributions from:

- Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire Police Authority, detailing the Association of Police Authority Chief Executives (APACE) work on commissioning; and
- Police Authorities Wales - update on transition work with partners in Wales.

We also include information on the forthcoming national statement on funding, a timetable for Police and Crime Plans; a reminder for partners on the development of business cases; candidate briefing; an update on partnership working across Criminal Justice and Health sectors; and information on two upcoming conferences - the Home Office Integrated Offender Management (IOM) conference being held on 3rd and 4th July and the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) 'Leading Change in Policing' conference being held between 22nd and 24th May.

APACE Guide to Commissioning – An introduction to becoming a commissioning organisation

Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire Police Authority, writes about APACE work on commissioning.

Working with partners, APACE is producing the first in a series of guides which aims to help these new policing bodies become commissioning organisations. The guidance will emphasise that commissioning is not something you should do in isolation; it involves creating a vision and consensus across many organisations and should involve the providers and users who are affected by it.

The guidance will also provide an overview of the 'understand, plan, do and review cycle' which is at the heart of all good commissioning.

The new localism agenda allows each policing body to create its own unique commissioning infrastructure and have the flexibility to respond to the individual challenges of their area. For some, the commissioning cycle will focus on managing the new funds to be transferred to PCCs. Others may choose to look wider, aiming to bring together responsible authorities and partners within the criminal justice system to create new ways of working.

The guidance will be available on the APACE website from the end of May. If you have any suggestions please contact Dorothy.gregson@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Police Authorities Wales transition work with partners

Police Authorities Wales (PAW) have a unique challenge in operating in the devolved context of Wales, working with both Wales and UK Governments on the implication for policy and organisational change introduced by the PRSR Act 2011. Areas in which the reserved matter of policing aligns to devolved functions include: substance misuse, health, community safety, domestic abuse and youth justice.

The PRSR also places a reciprocal duty on PCC and Criminal Justice bodies to make arrangements for the exercise of functions so as to provide an efficient and effective criminal justice system for the police area. A workshop with the All Wales Criminal Justice Board facilitated discussion on PCC's future relationship with CJS partners and an options paper is being developed. A similar approach is being considered for the All Wales Community Safety Forum.

Progress has also been made in the following areas:

- Working with the WLGA to support the process for the establishment of Police and Crime panels (PCPS) in each force area;
- Consideration of the establishment of a Welsh Policing Collaboration Board;
- Mapping of existing funding streams and assessment of the likely impact of PCCs on community safety activities.
- Updated websites to keep the public informed of what the PAW are doing to prepare for PCCs.

National statement on funding

We are currently preparing a communication that will provide details of arrangements in 2012-13, those funding streams that will cease from the end of March 2013, and the new Home Office Community Safety Fund that the PCCs will receive in 2013/14. We aim to issue this communication at the beginning of July.

A timetable for Police and Crime Plans

The PCCs' first police and crime plans must be issued by the end of March 2013. The plan is a public document that will articulate the PCCs' priorities and set out their objectives for:

- The policing of the force area;
- Crime and disorder reduction in the force area;
- Discharging the police force's national and international functions.

The plan will set out the commitments to which the PCC will be held to account by the public and the PCP.

The PCC will be required to publish a copy of the issued plan and send a copy to the chief constable and all other community safety responsible authorities (Fire & Rescue Authorities, Local Authorities, PCTs and Probation Trusts) within the force area.

Police authorities are beginning work on draft police and crime plans before PCCs take office, it is vital that the full range of partners feed into the process to ensure that the resulting plan truly reflects the issues that are of greatest concern locally.

The development of partners' business cases

Following the APACE article on commissioning we are keen to remind partners of the information booklet 'What partners need to know' available on the Home Office website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/what-partners-need-to-know>

Partners will want to ensure that their business cases for existing programmes or proposals for new approaches are robust. This could include considering the evidence base and value for money of programmes as well as considering the fit between current partnership priorities, the needs of service users and the potential interests of the PCC. This will apply equally to the statutory and voluntary sectors.

Candidate briefing

The PCC pages of the Home Office website will be re-vamped in the coming weeks, with distinct areas for the public, partners and candidates. The partners section will include core briefs, timescales, and key publications. The candidates section will include national level candidate briefings on a number of areas – the PCC model, the national landscape, national strategies, and partnerships and commissioning.

PCC transition programme update

There has been media coverage recently around how we will communicate to the electorate about candidates in their area. The Home Office recently completed a statutory consultation on the secondary legislation for PCC elections with the Electoral Commission and others, which included consideration of how the public can receive information about PCC candidates. We are looking at options for this, and an important consideration will be to enable members of the public to access information by a range of means. We expect to lay the secondary legislation on the elections in May.

We held a one day event for Police Authority Chief Executives on preparing for and working with PCCs, including talks by the Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice, Nick Herbert and London's Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Kit Malthouse.

A programme of work has also commenced to 'test' the shadow Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR). ACPO led scenario testing in the West Midlands on 21st March; NPIA scenario testing exercises with forces and authorities are ongoing; and an exercise in conjunction with the Emergency Planning College took place at the start of April. The Home Secretary will issue the statutory SPR in the summer.

Finally, the Association of Police Authorities held a successful PCC transition conference in March at which the Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice, Nick Herbert spoke. The conference was attended by police authority members and included practical workshops led by police authority practitioners and partners (including the Home Office, IPCC, HMIC, and LGA). The workshops focused on priority issues affecting police authority transition planning.

Integrated Offender Management conference – 3rd and 4th July 2012

The Home Office is hosting a major conference on Integrated Offender Management (IOM), with a particular focus on PCCs, to take place on the 3rd and 4th of July at the National Policing Improvement Agency, Leamington Road, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, CV8 3EN Coventry, West Midlands.

Key speakers will include the Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice, Nick Herbert. One of the

clear aims of the event will be to help areas to maximise the contribution that IOM approaches can make to local activity to reduce crime and re-offending in a changing landscape. This includes PCCs, major health and criminal justice reforms and the increasing focus on new financial models, including Payment by Results.

More details about the conference and programme will follow shortly. To obtain your booking form and register your interest, please visit the Home Office website at:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/reducing-reoffending/iom/

All booking forms to be completed and returned to:

IOM.info@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that registering your interest does not necessarily guarantee you a place at the conference.

We're sending out regular bulletins throughout the roll-out of Police and Crime Commissioners. Contact us at PCCPartnersEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk to keep you informed of what we are doing, what we plan to do and the opportunities for you to get involved. We will also field any enquiries or questions you have.

We welcome your comments and questions throughout the development and implementation process.