

Home Office Draft Structural Reform Plan

July 2010

Structural Reform Plans

Structural Reform Plans are the key tool of the Coalition Government for making departments accountable for the implementation of the reforms set out in the Coalition Agreement. They replace the old, top-down systems of targets and central micromanagement.

The reforms set out in each department's SRP are designed to turn government on its head, taking power away from Whitehall and putting it into the hands of people and communities. Once these reforms are in place, people themselves will have the power to improve our country and our public services, through the mechanisms of local democratic accountability, competition, choice, and social action.

The reform plans set out in this document are consistent with and form part of the Department's contribution to the Spending Review. All departmental spending is subject to the Spending Review.

We have adopted a cautious view of the timescales for delivering all legislative measures due to the unpredictability of pressures on Parliamentary time.

Departmental priorities

1. Enable the police and local communities to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour

- Enable police forces and local communities to deal better with the anti-social behaviour and crime that blights people's lives

2. Increase the accountability of the police to citizens

- Make police forces more accountable to the communities they serve through oversight by a directly elected individual and transparency about what the police are doing locally to tackle crime

3. Secure our borders and control immigration

- Limit non-European Economic Area migration, establish a Border Police Force to secure our borders and end the detention of children for immigration purposes

4. Protect people's freedoms and civil liberties

- Reverse state intrusion into the lives of law-abiding citizens by scrapping ID cards, bringing common sense into the employment vetting process and restoring rights of non-violent protest

5. Protect our citizens from terrorism

- Support cross-government work on Counter Terrorism, prevent the spread of extremism and confront extremist groups

1. Enable the police and local communities to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (1/3)

Enable police forces and local communities to deal better with the anti-social behaviour and crime that blights people's lives

ACTIONS	Start	End
1.1 Review of existing anti-social behaviour powers		
i. Develop and consult on proposals to consolidate anti-social behaviour tools and powers to reduce complexity and provide effective interventions for police, local authorities and social landlords	Jun 2010	Sep 2010
ii. Legislate through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill	Oct 2010	Nov 2011
1.2 Overhaul alcohol licensing to give more power to police and local authorities to meet the concerns of local communities		
i. Consult and develop proposals to overhaul the Licensing Act 2003 to strengthen local authority and police powers to remove licenses from, or refuse to grant licenses to, any premises that are causing problems	Jun 2010	Sep 2010
ii. Legislate through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill	Oct 2010	Nov 2011
iii. Develop options for alcohol taxation and pricing to ensure it tackles binge drinking, working with Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and HM Treasury	Jun 2010	Apr 2011
iv. Develop options to ban below-cost sale of alcohol, working with other government departments	Jun 2010	Nov 2010
v. Introduce legislation if necessary	Nov 2011	
MILESTONES		
A. Changes to alcohol taxation introduced by HM Treasury	Apr 2011	
B. Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill passed	Nov 2011	

1. Enable the police and local communities to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (2/3)

Enable police forces and local communities to deal better with the anti-social behaviour and crime that blights people's lives

ACTIONS	Start	End
1.3 Free up police time by reducing bureaucracy and interference from the centre		
i. Remove Stop and Account recording, reduce Stop and Search procedures and develop further options to reduce time-wasting bureaucracy while saving taxpayers' money, including measures to improve policing technology and reform health and safety laws that obstruct common sense policing	Jun 2010	Nov 2010
ii. Develop options to pare back the police inspection and targets regime, especially targets and data requests imposed on the police by the Home Office	Jun 2010	Oct 2010
iii. Trial police powers for charging minor offences, before launching a national roll out	May 2010	Nov 2010
iv. Full review of the remuneration and conditions of service for police officers and staff, alongside the Spending Review	July 2010	Jan 2011
v. Develop plans to extend the collaboration between police forces to deliver efficiencies by sharing certain functions between forces in the same area	Jul 2010	Nov 2010
vi. Develop proposals with the police to strengthen arrangements to deal with serious crime and other crimes that cut across police force areas	Sep 2010	Dec 2010
MILESTONES		
A. Proposals published on paring back the police inspection and targets regime	Oct 2010	
B. Remove Stop and Account recording and reduce Stop and Search procedures	Nov 2010	
C. Trial completed of police powers for charging minor offences	Nov 2010	
D. Plans to extend the collaboration between police forces published	Nov 2010	
E. Publication of review of remuneration and conditions for police officers and staff	Jan 2011	

1. Enable the police and local communities to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (3/3)

Enable police forces and local communities to deal better with the anti-social behaviour and crime that blights people's lives

ACTIONS	Start	End
1.4 Enable the police and local communities to tackle crime		
i. Ensure hospitals share non-confidential information with the police on knife and gun crime and other serious violence, working with the Department of Health	Jun 2010	Apr 2011
ii. Improve the recording of hate crime by setting up systems to provide a consolidated set of data of hate-related offences, published in an open and standardised format	Jun 2010	Apr 2011
iii. Develop options to provide people with greater protection to prevent crime and apprehend criminals, including defending themselves against intruders, working with the Ministry of Justice	Jul 2010	Dec 2010
iv. Draft a cross-government strategy to prevent violence against women	Jun 2010	Apr 2011
1.5 Develop a comprehensive approach to drug misuse		
i. Introduce new system of temporary bans on new legal highs while health issues are considered by independent experts	Oct 2010	Nov 2011
ii. Develop options and a strategy for drugs misuse, covering prevention, enforcement, treatment and reintegration (including rehabilitation), working with other government departments	Jun 2010	Dec 2010
1.6 Support the Ministry of Justice in developing a rehabilitation Green Paper, including options for sentencing reform	Jun 2010	Nov 2010
MILESTONES		
A. Introduction of temporary ban on legal highs	Oct 2010	
B. Rehabilitation Green Paper published by the Ministry of Justice	Nov 2010	
C. New strategy to tackle drug misuse published	Dec 2010	
D. Introduction of measures on violence against women and hate crime	Apr 2011	
E. Measures ensuring hospitals share non-confidential information with the police	Apr 2011	

2. Increase the accountability of the police to citizens

Make police forces more accountable to the communities they serve through oversight by a directly elected individual and transparency about what the police are doing locally to tackle crime

ACTIONS	Start	End
2.1 Make the police more accountable through oversight by directly elected individual		
i. Consult and develop proposals to replace Police Authorities with directly elected individuals, who will be subject to strict checks and balances through locally elected representatives	Jun 2010	Sep 2010
ii. Legislate through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill	Oct 2010	Nov 2011
iii. First elections of directly elected individuals	May 2012	
2.2 Make the actions of the police in tackling crime more transparent		
i. Support the police in publishing local crime data every month in an open and standardised format, so that the public can get proper information about crime in their neighbourhoods and hold the police to account for their performance	Jun 2010	Dec 2010
ii. Support the police in holding regular police ‘beat meetings’, supported by monthly crime data, so that residents can hold them to account	Jul 2010	Dec 2010
MILESTONES		
A. First areas publish local crime data in an open and standardised format	Jan 2011	
B. Beat meetings take place using local crime data	Jan 2011	
C. Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill passed	Nov 2011	
D. First elections of directly elected individuals	May 2012	

3. Secure our borders and control immigration (1/2)

Limit non-European Economic Area migration, establish a Border Police Force to secure our borders and end the detention of children for immigration purposes

ACTIONS	Start	End
3.1 Establish a Border Police Force to secure our borders using legislation if required	Oct 2010	Apr 2013
3.2 Minimise abuse of the immigration system by strengthening the system of granting student and spouse visas		
i. Review the student visa system and bring forward proposals to prevent abuse	Autumn 2010	Jan 2011
ii. Introduce English language requirements for spouses	Autumn 2010	
3.3 Set an annual limit on the number of non-European Economic Area migrants admitted to the UK		
i. Set an interim limit on non-European Economic Area migrants	Jun 2010	
ii. Consult on how best to operate a permanent limit, taking into account the economic, social and public service impacts of migration	Jun 2010	Sep 2010
iii. Make changes to current operations to operate an annual limit	Sep 2010	Mar 2011
iv. Set a new annual limit on non-European Economic Area migrants	Apr 2011	
MILESTONES		
A. Set an interim limit on non-European Economic Area migrants	Jul 2010	
B. Tighter system for granting student visas in place	Jan 2011	
C. Set a new annual limit on non-European Economic Area migrants	Apr 2011	
D. Border Police Force in operation	Apr 2013	

3. Secure our borders and control immigration (2/2)

Limit non-European Economic Area migration, establish a Border Police Force to secure our borders and end the detention of children for immigration purposes

ACTIONS	Start	End
3.4 Implement changes to speed up the processing of asylum applications		
i. Review and develop options for improving the processing of applications	Jun 2010	Dec 2010
ii. Implement changes recommended by the review	Jan 2011	Dec 2011
3.5 End the detention of children for immigration purposes		
i. Review current measures for the detention of children for immigration purposes	Jun 2010	Aug 2010
ii. Implement changes recommended by the review	Aug 2010	Mar 2011
3.6 Support E-borders and re-introduce exit checks	Jun 2010	Dec 2014
3.7 Develop plans to stop the deportation of asylum seekers who have had to leave particular countries because their sexual orientation or gender identification puts them at proven risk of imprisonment, torture or execution	Jun 2010	Dec 2010
MILESTONES		
A. Measures in place to stop deportation of asylum seekers who have had to leave particular countries because their sexual orientation or gender identification puts them at proven risk	Dec 2010	
B. Complete implementation of the review of Child Detention	Mar 2011	
C. Report on review to speed up processing of asylum applications	Mar 2011	
D. Re-introduce exit checks	Dec 2014	

4. Protect people's freedoms and civil liberties (2/2)

Reverse state intrusion into the lives of law-abiding citizens by scrapping ID cards, bringing common sense into the employment vetting process and restoring rights of non-violent protest

ACTIONS	Start	End
4.2 Implement a Freedom Bill		
i. Outlaw finger-printing of children at school without parental permission, working with the Department for Education	Jun 2010	Nov 2011
ii. Further regulate CCTV, including Automatic Number Plate Recognition, to ensure that its use is proportionate and retains public confidence	Jun 2010	Nov 2011
iii. Adopt protections of the Scottish model for the DNA database and publish guidance on the application of rights to remove DNA from the database	Jun 2010	Nov 2011
iv. Restore rights to non-violent protest, in particular by reviewing the current legislation governing protests around Parliament and making necessary changes	Jun 2010	Nov 2011
4.3 Review the operation of the Extradition Act and the US/UK extradition treaty	Sep 2010	Sep 2011
MILESTONES		
A. Publish review of the Extradition Act and US/UK extradition treaty	Sep 2011	
B. Freedom Bill passed	Nov 2011	

5. Protect our citizens from terrorism (1/2)

Support cross-government work on Counter Terrorism, prevent the spread of extremism and confront extremist groups

ACTIONS	Start	End
5.1 Consider changes to security and counter-terrorism policies and systems as part of the Strategic Defence and Security Review under the direction of the National Security Council	Jun 2010	Oct 2010
5.2 Develop proposals on how best to extend the UK's ability to deport foreign nationals who threaten our national security	Jun 2010	Nov 2010
5.3 Review of the 'prevent' strand of the counter-terrorism strategy with a clear separation between 'prevent' (Home Office lead) and 'integration' (Communities and Local Government lead)	Jun 2010	Jan 2011
5.4 Revise the 'CONTEST' counter-terrorism strategy	Nov 2010	Jan 2011
MILESTONES		
A. National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review published		Oct 2010
B. Extend the UK's ability to deport foreign nationals who threaten our national security		Nov 2010
C. Review of 'prevent' strand of the counter-terrorism strategy published		Jan 2011
D. Revised CONTEST counter-terrorism strategy published		Jan 2011

**5. Protect our citizens from terrorism
(2/2)**

Support cross-government work on Counter Terrorism, prevent the spread of extremism and confront extremist groups

ACTIONS	Start	End
5.5 Develop plans to deny public funds to any group that has recently espoused or incited violence or hatred and proscribe such organisations, subject to the advice of the police and security and intelligence agencies	Jun 2010	Autumn 2010
5.6 Make changes to pre-flight checks to identify people who pose a potential terrorist threat and prevent those who pose a severe terrorist threat from flying into and out of the UK	Jun 2010	Aug 2011
5.7 Strengthen the UK's protection against and ability to respond to a terrorist attack, including enhancing the nation's resilience	Jun 2010	Mar 2011
5.8 Help ensure a safe and successful Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012 and legislate as necessary to support this		
i. As a first step, undertake a review of Olympic Security preparations	Jun 2010	Jul 2010
ii. Work with the Mayor of London and other partners to ensure effective plans and capabilities are in place	Jun 2010	Jul 2012
MILESTONES		
A. Review of Olympic Security preparations completed	Jul 2010	
B. Deny public funds to groups that have recently espoused or incited violence or hatred	Autumn 2010	
C. Strengthen pre-flight checks and ban from flying those who pose a terrorist threat	Aug 2011	
D. Strengthen the UK's protection against and ability to respond to a terrorist attack	Mar 2011	
E. Effective plans and capabilities in place for the Olympic and Paralympic Games	Jul 2012	