POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

PCC BULLETIN

No 9 – 1st June 2012

This ninth 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:

- **An update from Nathan Oley, Association of Police Authorities (APA) writing about the establishment of a national representative body for PCCs;**
- **An update on Integrated Offender Management (IOM) work in relation to PCCs and drug misusing offenders;**
- **Information on Home Office communications work;**
- **Effective practice information;**
- **Jessica Mullen from Clinks writing about Safer Future Communities work; and**
- **Details of a PCC events frequently asked questions document.**

Association of Police Authorities (APA) – Establishment of a national representative body for PCCs

Nathan Oley, head of press and public affairs at the APA, provides details of APA work on the establishment of a national representative body for PCCs.

Ministers have agreed that the APA is best placed to establish a representative body dedicated to supporting and representing PCCs at a national level when they are elected in November. The national body, Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC), which was established by the APA in May 2012 will provide the following services to all PCCs:

- Advice to candidates from May 2012;
- Facilitate a national programme of transition and induction for all PCCs;
- Ensure PCCs have a strong and positive national profile;
- Provide information on national policing policy issues, and important legislative changes;
- Consult PCCs on national issues to help develop policy positions and influence change;
- Facilitate the leadership of PCCs on national governance structures such as the National Crime Agency, Newco (Police IT Company) and the Police Professional Body;
- Assist PCCs in collaborating to share practice, procure services, and identify ways to achieve efficiencies through working together effectively.

Links to all of the information that candidates may need, including policing policy briefings and force performance information will be available from the 1st June at: www.apccs.police.uk

The site will also include a daily digest of 'need to know' stories about policing and PCCs, and a repository of useful background information.

The APCC will also provide a telephone enquiry service for all candidates and their staff, and the APCC's twitter feed @AssocPCCs will provide the latest updates and links to 'must see' stories.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) – Update

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) arrangements are increasingly providing a local framework to ensure that all offenders of concern are within the scope of local agencies. This ensures that nobody is missed; the response to each offender is proportionate to the risk that he or she poses; and the contribution of local agencies is co-ordinated to have the maximum impact on offending, making best use of available resources.

This approach means that all those who pose a risk to the local community – because of their previous offending and the likelihood that they will continue to offend – are 'in scope', even if they are not subject to formal supervision by the probation service.

While there are some common key principles for IOM across areas, there is no one national model: it must be for local areas and partners to determine who their most damaging offenders are, and how best to manage local resources to make sure that they face up to their responsibilities or face the consequences.

IOM and PCCs

Local areas will wish to consider how best to align their local IOM arrangements to be able to support PCCs to deliver their priorities around reducing crime and re-offending. This is a theme that will be explored at the national IOM Conference on the 3rd and 4th July, in order to help local areas maximise the contribution that IOM approaches can make. Partners can still register for the conference at http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/reducing-reoffending/iom/

IOM and drug misusing offenders

Recognising the links between drug misuse and crime, the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) was established as a crime reduction programme in 2003. It has provided interventions for drug misusing offenders throughout their criminal justice journey, from drug testing and assessment in the custody suite to post-release care planning, and case management in the community. DIP sits under the wider IOM umbrella.

In 2013/14 PCCs will receive funding from a new Community Safety Fund (CSF) to commission services to support crime, drugs and community safety priorities (further information on this will be communicated to all partners soon). PCCs may decide to commission with other local partners or pool resources, and will be free to decide how best to invest to secure the priorities set out in their local police and crime plan. This may include DIP interventions.

There have been significant reductions in offending by individuals in contact with DIP, and we are keen to ensure that areas are supported in building their case locally for continuing with this approach.

With that in mind we will shortly be preparing the first in a series of 'DIP Futures' bulletins aimed at partners currently working within DIP, and within the wider IOM approach. This will explain our approach to this transition year and the support that we plan to provide to areas going forward.

Communications update

New PCC web pages and content coming soon

A new section of the Home Office website will be launching next week. Containing information for the public, partners and prospective candidates, the site has been developed to include the latest information in an easy to access format. Some of the new information includes;

- A set of candidate briefings;
- Partner information pages;
- #PCCs Twitter feed.

Effective Practice

The Home Office website now includes an effective practice area where you can submit and search for quality assured examples of crime cutting work in local areas.

Guidance on the submission process for effective practice examples, and the quality assurance criteria are available on these pages.

In the new landscape the ability of partners to demonstrate their effectiveness will be important as PCCs will want to commission the most effective services to meet local priorities.

As well as their commissioning role, PCCs will be directly accountable to local communities. Raising the public awareness of effective practice will help inform communities about crime reduction approaches.

By submitting effective projects to the Home Office effective practice area you will be able to highlight work that has been judged as a good quality example of crime cutting activity.

If you would like to submit a case study example or find out more, please visit Effective Practice

Contact: EffectivePractice@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Clinks – Safer Future Communities work

Jessica Mullen, project co-ordinator – Safer Future Communities, writes about her ongoing work on the Safer Future Communities project.

Safer Future Communities is supporting the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector to engage with and influence prospective candidates and incoming PCCs, including helping them understand the new commissioning landscape. VCSE infrastructure organisations have been appointed in each police force area to set up a Safer Future Communities local network.

Many Safer Future Communities networks are planning or holding launch events, or speaking at police authority events for partners. Some are planning hustings and 'Question Time' style events for PCC candidates. Others are working through their networks, and other VCSE forums to agree messages for PCC candidates.

The project (which is being led by Clinks) is working in partnership with the Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services, Drugscope, the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action, National Council for Voluntary Youth Services, and the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action Women's

Resource Centre. They are providing sector specific support and training for the networks.

On the 19th June we are holding an event in partnership with ACPO to bring together organisations co-ordinating the local networks with their police counterparts, and to explore commissioning and developing better partnership working.

The national project partnership and VCSE stakeholders are also producing an 'Offer to the PCCs' setting out what the VCSE sector does in the community safety field and the principles that guide it. It outlines the VCSE sector's strong community links and knowledge and experience of working in partnership with a wide range of organisations to reduce crime, provide value for money and keep communities safe. Once the offer is finalised it will be available from the project website:

www.clinks.org/services/sfc

Homeless Link is planning a webinar on the 26th June on 'Homelessness and PCCs'. Details are available in the link below:

http://homeless.org.uk/conference-diary#understandingpcc

You can find more information about the project at http://www.clinks.org/services/sfc and download contact details for the local Safer Future Communities networks.

PCC Events – Frequently asked questions document

We recently ran a series of 17 events across England and Wales. Each event brought together a range of partners from up to three police force areas to consider issues relating to the transition to PCCs. We agreed to produce a frequently asked questions document developed from the events, and drawing from the feedback captured via the digital technology that was used. These will be uploaded shortly on the Home Office website at:

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/police-commissioner-events/

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.