

Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting police and the people



The Home Office Consultation Paper 'Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting police and the people' published on 26 July, sets out the coalition Government's radical changes to the policing landscape. The paper proposes to:

- Replace the Police Authority with a directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner by May 2012. The commissioner will be elected every four years and can serve for a maximum of two terms. They will be responsible for:
 - ❖ holding the Chief Constable to account
 - ❖ setting the budget and precept
 - ❖ representing and engaging communities to set local policing priorities
 - ❖ appointing and where necessary dismissing the Chief Constable
- Create a new Police and Crime Panel that will hold the Commissioner (and not the Police) to account. The panel will consist of local councillors, lay and Independent

people and will have no powers of veto other than to call a referendum in relation to the setting of the precept

- Maintain absolute operational independence for the Chief Constable.
- Repeal the Community Safety Partnership regulations to the one core duty for key partners to work together and the creation of a Community Safety Partnership at force level
- Create a new National Crime Agency to deal with serious organised crime and border security
- Promote greater individual responsibility for keeping neighbourhoods safe, such as volunteering as Special Constables, as part of the 'big society' agenda.

The Consultation is running until **20 September** and a draft Bill is set to be published in autumn 2010.



The police authority holding the constabulary to account

Current Governance of Hampshire Constabulary

Hampshire Police Authority currently consists of 17 members, 9 of whom are local councillors and 8 independent members of the public who are appointed through a rigorous selection process.

The Police Authority is responsible for:

- Holding the Chief constable to account
- Setting the budget and precept
- Representing and engaging with local communities to set local policing priorities
- Appointing and where necessary dismissing the Chief Constable and other senior police officers
- Checking complaints against the Police

The constabulary area covers roughly 1,600 square miles and has approximately 1.9 million residents, represented by 15

councils (consisting of 701 councillors) including Hampshire County, 11 boroughs and districts and the 3 unitary councils of Portsmouth, Southampton and Isle of Wight. The area also has 19 Members of Parliament and 11 Members of the European Parliament.



Hampshire Constabulary Area

Engagement and Consultation

Below are some aspects for consideration when collating your response. The Police and Crime Commissioner will:

- Represent the views of 1.9 million residents
- Have responsibility for a budget in the region of £300 million
- Only be able to serve for a maximum of two terms, only accountable through the ballot box once
- Be responsible for ensuring the policing priorities for 156 neighbourhoods

The Authority will be engaging with members of the public to gather their

views on the paper as follows:

- 27 August, Eastleigh and District Disability Forum
- 1 September, Hart shopping Centre, Fleet
- 6 September, Cascades, Portsmouth
- 8 September, Festival Place, Basingstoke



Please send your views to Hampshire Police Authority by 10 September 2010.

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Or directly to the Home Office by 20 September 2010