

Partnership Matters

Your update from Hampshire Police Authority



The affects of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill is currently at the House of Commons awaiting 'ping pong'. Below is a summary of the Bill, if enacted, that will affect policing governance and Local Authorities.

Part 1 on Police Reform, will abolish the police authority and replace it with a directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to hold the Chief Constable to account. It also contains a provision for establishing a Police and Crime Panel (PCP) for each force area. The role of the PCP will be to advise, support and scrutinise the work of the PCC.

Part 2 on Licensing, amends the Licensing Act 2003 to give licensing authorities, the police,

local authorities with responsibility for controlling noise nuisance and Primary Care Trusts roles within the process. It also enables the introduction of a levy. At least 70% of the funds generated will be paid to the PCC, other bodies that operate measures to address the effect of alcohol related crime and disorder will also be paid from the fund.

Part 4, Miscellaneous, enables local authorities to attach powers of seizure and reten-

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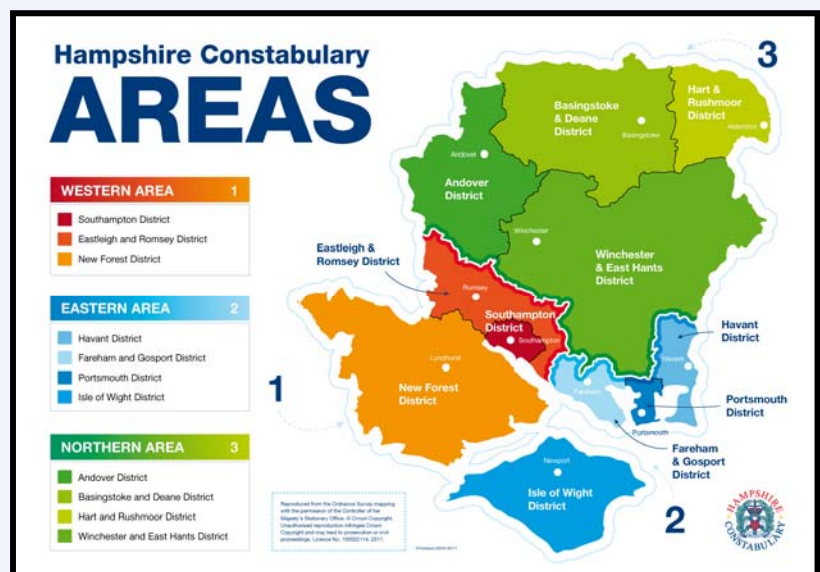
Police Reform Stakeholder Conference
10 February 2012
Details to be announced

tion of any property in connection with any breach of a byelaw made under section 235 of the Local Government Act.

Police and Crime Commissioners

The functions and responsibilities of a PCC are to publish a police and crime plan, set local police and crime objectives, set the precept and annual force budget, appoint, suspend and dismiss the Chief Constable and to hold them to account for the full range of their responsibilities. The PCC will also have new duties to secure an efficient and effective local criminal justice system.

The PCC will be held to account via the ballot box and through the Police and Crime Panel (PCP). The PCC for Hampshire will cover the Hampshire policing area, including Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight.



For more details about the Police Authority, log onto www.hampshirepoliceauthority.org

Police and Crime Panel

The main function of the PCP is to support the PCC in delivering an efficient and effective service through the review and scrutiny of the PCC's decisions. The PCP will consist of one member from each of the local authorities and two co-optees who must not be councillors, which for Hampshire policing area equates to 17 members. The PCP may increase its size, by agreement of the Secretary of State, to a maximum of 20. Therefore, Hampshire may have an additional 3 co-optees who may be councillors.

The PCP should reflect the political balance across the area as a whole and the members should have the skills and knowledge to discharge duties effectively. All members have equal voting rights and the costs of supporting the panel lie with the relevant local authorities. The PCP can request the PCC, their staff and the Chief Constable to attend meetings. The functions of the PCP are essentially to:

- Scrutinize the Police & Crime Plan
- Scrutinize the Annual Report

- Agree the proposed Precept
- Approve the appointment of the Chief Constable and senior PCC staff (inc. Deputy PCC, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer)
- Scrutinize the PCC's call for Chief Constable's Resignation/Retirement
- Appoint Acting PCC from PCC's staff if PCC incapacitated
- Suspend PCC if charged with a criminal offence
- Receive reports from HMIC and publish information/performance data as required by the Secretary of State

The PCP has two powers of veto (if agreed by $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{rds} of Membership) namely the precept and the appointment of Chief Constable; all other activity is only by recommendation, which although the PCC must respond to, is not compelled to act upon.

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs)

Responsible authorities must have regard to the police and crime objectives within the police and crime plan when formulating crime and disorder strategies.

The PCC will not be required to sit on CSPs, however, they will have the power to require responsible authorities to submit a report and attend a meeting on any matter relating to the exercise of their functions. This must be done in a reasonable and proportionate manner, and

only where the PCC is not satisfied that the CSP is performing adequately.

The PCC will have the power to draw up the combination orders for CSPs, with the agreement of all the responsible authorities it will affect.

Additionally, the PCC will have the power to commission Crime Prevention Grants and will hold the community safety fund.

Police and Crime Commissioner Elections

The first election, using supplementary voting, is expected to take place in May 2012, and then every four years.

All councils are required to provide support for the elections and the Home Office has appointed the Hampshire Police Area Returning Officer in designate.

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