



West Mercia
Police Authority

WORKING WITH YOU IN PARTNERSHIP FOR WEST MERCIA

On 15 November 2012, members of the public will be voting for their first Police and Crime Commissioner and Police Authorities will be abolished. We intend to leave a force in good shape ready to engage with a new generation of police governance.

There is no doubt that the force faces a difficult financial challenge. During this transition period we will continue to strengthen links with partners to deliver more effective services, particularly to the most vulnerable to reduce harm and risk and ensure we all get best value from reduced funding. We are also progressing the alliance programme with Warwickshire to enable both forces to deliver efficiencies whilst delivering a positive impact on service delivery.



CHAIRMAN
CLLR. SHEILA BLAGG

Crime Down

69,582 March 2012
72,023 March 2011

Domestic Burglaries Down

3027 March 2012
3204 March 2011

85% of victims
satisfied with
service received
Survey Results Year
Ending Feb 2012

70% of residents say
Police do a good or
excellent job
Crime and Safety Partnership
Survey Results Apr-Dec 2011

Policing Objectives 2012-13

One of the Police and Crime Commissioner's first duties will be to review the policing objectives which guide the Chief Constable. Our current objectives are set out below:

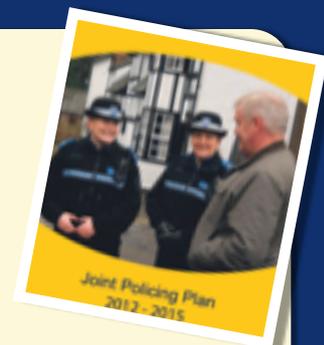
Strategic Aim - Protect the public from harm.

Outcome - Reduced levels of harm making our communities feel safer.

Objectives 2012-13

- Deliver an effective emergency response.
- Protect people from crime and anti-social behaviour taking into account their needs and vulnerabilities.
- Deliver a supportive and effective response to victims and witnesses taking into account their needs and vulnerabilities.
- Plan and prepare to deliver our contribution to the Strategic Policing Requirement.
- Proactively target organised crime groups, drug markets and individuals who cause most harm.
- Disrupt the harm caused by alcohol misuse and intervene appropriately.
- Work with partners and the public to bring offenders to account and reduce re-offending.
- Work with partners and the public to prevent people being killed or seriously injured on our roads.
- Plan and prepare to respond to any major and serious incidents.
- Deliver an efficient and effective policing service which provides value for money.

Further details are published in the Joint Policing Plan 2012-2015, available on the Police Authority website.
www.westmerciapoliceauthority.gov.uk



West Mercia
Police Authority

Working with you to improve policing in
Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin,
Herefordshire and Worcestershire

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Update

National News

- ★ The Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) has been commissioned by the Home Office to provide an independent 'umbrella body' for elected PCCs and all policing governance bodies in England and Wales; facilitating representation, co-ordination and a powerful voice for PCCs across the national landscape. <http://www.apccs.police.uk/>
- ★ The APCC will deliver a briefing day for PCC candidates and interested parties on the 11 September 2012. Further details will be issued soon here: <http://www.apccs.police.uk/page/september-event>
- ★ Nick Herbert, Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice, has clarified the arrangements for drug, crime and community safety funding in 2012/14 and beyond in a letter to the Chair of the Association of Police Authorities. The following is an extract from that letter, dated 27 June 2012.



"As the Home Secretary and I have said on a number of occasions, we plan to channel community safety resource to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) from 2013/14 to ensure that these democratically elected individuals are able to target funding at activities focused on local priorities.

In 2013/14 there will be a new and un-ring fenced Community Safety Fund (CSF) which will be paid to PCCs (and the City of London Corporation) to help them establish community safety priorities. The exact size and basis for allocation of this fund have yet to be determined. I will make further details available as soon as I am in a position to do so. The CSF will replace the vast majority of existing drugs and crime funding provided by the Home Office.

From 2014/15 onwards we intend to roll CSF funding into Police Main Grant. This will further reduce the number of separate central Government funding streams to the police, increasing transparency and freedom and flexibility over how PCCs use their resources. Again, the exact amount of funding to be rolled into Policing Main Grant has yet to be decided and I will make further details available as soon as I am in a position to do so.

I would like to take this opportunity to make absolutely clear that we have no intention of ring-fencing Policing Main Grant (I understand there has been some confusion on this point). It will be for PCCs to decide how to use all of the resources at their disposal in pursuit of local priorities."

Equally, we have no intention of setting a minimum or maximum amount that PCCs must or should spend on community safety activity. Again this is a local decision for individual PCCs to take. Furthermore, subject to the constraints that may be placed on individual funding streams (for example the ring-fenced Counter-Terrorism Policing Grant) PCCs will be able to pool funding as they and their local partners see fit."

- ★ The White Paper, Swift and Sure Justice, published on 13 July 2012, sets out an expectation that PCCs will have a pivotal role in helping criminal justice partners work together and introduce greater local accountability. PCCs being well placed to lead criminal justice reforms in their area, working with local partnerships to implement reform on the ground. It also states that consideration is being given as to whether PCCs should be involved in commissioning services for the management of offenders. <http://www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/publications/policy/moj/swift-and-sure-justice.pdf>
- ★ The Home Office has announced that PCCs will determine local victims' services. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/pccs-victim-services>. The decisions on how funding will be allocated and when funding for victims will transfer to PCCs have yet to be made. It is envisaged that the transfer will happen no later than April 2015.
- ★ A new section dedicated to information on PCCs has been launched on the Home Office website. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/>



- ★ During a Transition Seminar at Ryton, Policing Minister Nick Herbert confirmed that a 'substantial' PCC information campaign is planned, and will be launched in September 2012.
- ★ Monthly information bulletins on the transition to PCCs continue to be issued by the Home Office. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/police-crime-comms-bulletin/>

Local News

- ★ The Police Authority website, provides regular updates on national and local developments regarding PCCs. www.westmerciapoliceauthority.gov.uk
- ★ In March the Home Office announced that funding for youth crime and substance misuse would be split between the Youth Justice Board and individual police authorities. The aim being to enable a transition of partnership working to commission community safety services from 2013/14 onwards. West Mercia Police Authority has agreed the passporting of £99,128 to the Youth Offending Teams within West Mercia and that the Youth Offending Teams report performance quarterly to the Police Authority/PCC. The arrangements will last for 12 months pending a full review of the new model and how outcomes can be improved.
- ★ It will be the role of the Police and Crime Panel to scrutinise the decisions of the PCC. The 10 local authorities within West Mercia (district, county and unitary) have agreed that Worcestershire County Council will be the lead authority for making the arrangements for the new Police and Crime Panel for West Mercia. The first meeting of the Shadow Panel is due to take place on 26 July 2012, when the arrangements for co-opted local authority members and independent members will be discussed.
- ★ The staff of the Police Authority will transfer to the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012. In preparation the Police Authority has completed the first phase of a staff restructure to ensure that the PCC has an appropriate support team when they come into office. The support team for the West Mercia Criminal Justice Board forms part of the new structure.



Road Casualties

Working with our partners and the public to prevent people being killed or seriously injured on the roads of West Mercia remains a key policing objective for 2012-13. Through the Safer Roads Partnership, we aim to make the roads safer for all users through targeted communication, education and training and speed enforcement.

Having recorded the lowest number of road casualties ever in 2010, the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads increased by 39 to 416 in 2011. However, 2010 was an unprecedented year due to the economic climate (people starting to use cars less) and severe weather at the start and end of the year. Although figures increased in 2011, casualty figures have been on a downward trend over the last five years which represents a 34% reduction since 2007.

Nationally, road deaths rose by 3% in 2011. In West Mercia, the number remained static at 47 deaths and no child under the age of 16 was killed on our roads in the last two years. However, the number of pedestrians killed increased from 3 in 2010 to 8 in 2011. Through the Safer Roads Partnership, we continue to deliver pedestrian safety campaigns throughout the year to reduce this figure and this year's campaign focuses on pedestrian distractions such as mobile phones, iPods and mp3 players.

The 16-24 year old age group is still highly represented in collision figures and accounted for 28% of road deaths (13 people) in 2011. The Safer Roads Partnership's young driver and passenger education programme launched in Worcestershire last year and has been delivered to over 2600 sixth form students this academic year. The programme starts again in September and will also roll out across Herefordshire.

Other work being undertaken by the Safer Roads Partnership includes the Community Concern programme - which responds to community requests for speed enforcement - and targeted communication campaigns focusing on issues such as drink and drug driving, motorcycle safety and older drivers.

Rape Investigation and Prosecution

The Police Authority has supported the Chief Constable in the implementation of recommendations from a national review of rape related processes by Her Majesty's Inspectorates of Constabulary and Crown Prosecution Service. It is hoped that this will further improve the force response to this crime area.

Alliance Update



A four-year plan to deliver high-quality, value for money, policing services to communities across Warwickshire and West Mercia police force areas has been agreed.

West Mercia and Warwickshire Police Authorities have agreed a blueprint for the delivery of policing services. Policing will now be reorganised and delivered jointly across seven geographical areas, each led by a local superintendent working with local partners. The superintendent will be responsible for local policing - including local policing teams, response, local investigation and harm reduction. The local policing areas are: Herefordshire; North Warwickshire; North Worcestershire; Shropshire; South Warwickshire; South Worcestershire and Telford & Wrekin. The plan will see:

- Local Policing Teams reorganised to concentrate on harm reduction in their communities.
- Local Policing Teams supported by other officers and staff working in the community performing functions such as patrol, crime investigation and forensics.
- Fewer people employed in support functions, fewer managers and fewer police supervisors.
- A new strategy developed to reduce the costs of police buildings, safeguarding money to ensure as many officers and staff as possible continue to be employed to deliver protections.

Potential changes to individual police buildings, stations or front-counter arrangements will be discussed with the Police Authority/Police and Crime Commissioner, local communities and partners to decide how they can best be used to support local policing. Other services, such as police-only front counters, will also be reviewed as the service improves its use of technology, multi-agency 'one-stop' shops and mobile police stations to engage with local people.

While both forces have agreed to work together each force will continue to be led by a Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable and retain its own identity. Two Assistant Chief Constables and two Directors are now responsible for the delivery of policing services across both force areas.

The Alliance plan is intended to enable both forces to maximise the services despite the budget reductions by building resilience within local policing and protective services directorates and streamlining support services, as well as reducing the total number of management and supervisory posts. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary recently published workforce numbers* showing that by 2015 it is planned that the Alliance will have a combined workforce of around 5,100 officers and staff, to deliver protection across Warwickshire and West Mercia, further supported by Special Constables and other volunteers. In March 2010 the combined workforce was 6,270.

West Mercia Police needs to reduce its operating costs by £20.1 million by the end of 2015/16 and Warwickshire by £10.2 million, a total of £30.3 million. Both Police Authorities have asked their Chief Constables to 'drive forward future design and implementation work as quickly as professionally possible', in consultation with Authorities and elected Police and Crime Commissioners from November 2012.

Click here for further information http://www.westmerciapoliceauthority.gov.uk/strategic_alliance/

**Policing in austerity - One year on, West Mercia and Warwickshire reports, HMIC, July 2012*

Appointments

Karen Manners has taken up her appointment as Assistant Chief Constable for Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police with responsibility for Protective Services. ACC Manners joined the force from Hampshire Constabulary where she had been Detective Chief Superintendent.



Gareth Morgan has taken up his appointment as Assistant Chief Constable for Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police with responsibility for Local Policing. Gareth joined the force from the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) where he had been working as Chief of Staff to the ACPO President. ACC Morgan has previously worked for West Midlands Police.



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