

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

PCC BULLETIN

No 13 – 24 October 2012

This thirteenth 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) next month. This edition includes:

- Update on Home Office PCC communications
- Elections
- Details of the Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice's speech to the Policy Exchange PCC Conference
- PCC Welcome event; and PCC National event
- Police and Crime Panels update
- Details of the Safer Future Communities project's ongoing work
- An update from the Drug Interventions Programme
- Tilley Awards

Police and Crime Commissioners: Communications update

Police and Crime Commissioner candidate information

From 26 October members of the public will be able to type their postcode into www.choosemypcc.org.uk and view details about candidates who are standing for Police and Crime Commissioner in their local area. The public can also call 0800 1 070 708 to order a free printed copy of candidate information.

Although the Home Office advertising campaign is ending due to purdah, the choosemypcc website will continue to be promoted on polling cards and in the Electoral Commission's booklet which is being delivered to every household in England and Wales. The [Home Office website](#) will remain the main hub for information on PCCs and further information on PCC communication activity can be found in the [campaign briefing pack](#).

You can also keep up-to-date with recent developments regarding wider crime and policing policy through the Home Office crime and policing [news update](#).

Elections

Nominations to be a candidate in the PCC elections closed on the 19th October.

Poll cards have been sent out and contain details of the candidate website and phonenumber for requesting paper copies.

Candidates have until midnight 24th October to withdraw their candidacy if they wish; and following that we will publish the candidate website on 26th October on www.choosemypcc.org.uk
Paper copies are available by calling 0800 1 070708.

The election is just three weeks away, on the 15th November. PCCs will take office on the 22nd of November.

Damian Green speech to PCC Conference 23 October

Damian Green, Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice, made a keynote speech on Police and Crime Commissioners to the PCC Conference held at Policy Exchange on the 23rd of October.

In the speech the Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice explained the principles that underpin policy on Police and Crime Commissioners. The Minister also set out the Government's vision for improved support for victims and witnesses, explaining why PCCs are likely to want to prioritise victims, including details of the new proposed duty on PCCs to make sure victims have a greater say in the punishment of some offenders. The aim is for PCCs to start commissioning victims' services in 2014.

The full text of the speech is available on the Home Office website:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/speeches/damian-green-policy-exchange>

PCC Welcome Event

The Home Secretary will invite all newly elected Police and Crime Commissioners to a Welcome Event at the Home Office on the 3rd December 2012. This will provide the first formal occasion for Police and Crime Commissioners to meet with the Home Secretary and her ministerial team, and discuss how they will work together in order to tackle the range of challenges that police service and our communities face in tackling and preventing crime.

The invitation will be extended to Police and Crime Commissioners. Ministers are keen to ensure that the event's agenda lays the foundation on which to forge and build effective working relationships with the Home Office, wider Government and ministers.

APCC National meeting 23rd January

The APCC will invite Police and Crime Commissioners to a national meeting on 23 January in central London. The programme for this event is currently being developed by the APCC, and other stakeholders will be invited to contribute depending on key priorities and issues identified by PCCs. The event will provide an opportunity for the PCCs and their staff to hear from a broad range of partners and stakeholders focusing on what works well, and what could be done to improve the provision of policing and crime reduction services within force areas.

In addition, the APCC will host a series of national briefing events and seminars throughout 2013 to provide an opportunity for a full range of stakeholders and partners to engage with PCCs on issues of interest. The full programme for these events will be published by the end of November on the APCC website. The APCC would like to hear from any organisation willing to contribute to these events from across criminal justice, policing and community safety sectors. To register an interest or for further information, please email enquiries@apccs.police.uk.

The APCC has recently produced a first 100 days checklist for PCCs:

<http://www.apccs.police.uk/page/100-days-checklist>

Police and crime panels update

We know that many police and crime panels have been meeting in recent weeks to consider panel procedures and the potential for additional co-option. As additional co-option (beyond the required two independents) requires Home Secretary approval, any PCPs that have indicated they plan to co-opt and haven't yet submitted a formal request, are urged to do so as soon as possible.

The guidance note setting out the scrutiny process for chief constable appointments has recently been added to the police and crime panel section of the Home Office website:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/partners/police-and-crime-panels/>

Regulations setting out the existing local government legislation that will be applied to PCPs, requiring CSPs to share their plans with the relevant PCC, and setting out the PCC's power to call together CSP representatives, are expected to be laid before Parliament in the coming weeks.

Grant agreements

Grant letters and agreements for the Police and Crime Panel Grant will be issued to host authorities shortly. Payment will be made in arrears. In 2012-13 host authorities will receive a single payment in March 2013.

For any enquiries about funding for police and crime panels please email:

PCCPartnersEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Safer Future Communities – news from partners

The National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS) launched their Youth Charter on 11 October. The youth charter is about encouraging PCCs to pledge their engagement with young people, and to listen to their views in a meaningful way. It provides principles which PCCs may wish to work to, all of which have come from young people. A number of organisations have already pledged their support to the charter and on the day of the launch five PCC candidates signed up. Information on the youth charter can be found here: <http://pccyouthcharter.wordpress.com/>

A workshop was held recently with drugs sector representatives to identify what actions Drugscope could take forward as a partner in the Safer Future Communities. The objective of the session was to help support the delivery of approaches which tackle drug-related crime; from April 2013 the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) will effectively end as a nationally managed and delivered programme.

Drug strategy - reducing demand and managing drug misusing offenders update

The second bulletin in a series issued to keep local areas informed of work related to the management of drug misusing offenders has been published. This is in line with the "Reducing Demand" chapter of the Drug Strategy, and includes information for local areas on the links between the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) and the new legislation on drug driving; links to the Integrated Offender Management conference report; an update on payment by results; an update on public health funding in 2013/14; and the latest drug treatment statistics from the National Treatment Agency. You can access the bulletin via the Home Office website:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/crime/reducing-reoffending/ds-reducing-demand-updates/>

Tilley Awards

The Tilley awards are awarded annually, and for 14 years have been recognising innovative crime fighting projects where police, community groups and the public successfully work together to identify

and tackle local crime problems. This year's entries tackled problems including organised crime, gang violence, alcohol and drug related crime, and anti-social behaviour.

The Tilley awards public vote is open until 2nd November.

You can vote for your favourite shortlisted project by visiting the Home Office website here <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/partnerships/tilley-awards/> Please also encourage colleagues, friends and family to visit and vote. You can also vote using your mobile phone or smartphone.

The winning project will be announced alongside the top three projects judged by an expert panel in December.

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.