



Home Office

Police and Crime Panels: Home Office Update

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July 2018

Government commitment to effective scrutiny

- Everyone now has a direct say in policing in their area.
- Presided over falls in crime traditionally measured by the Crime Survey of England and Wales to a record low.
- PCCs are providing an impetus to reform, are innovating and delivering policing more effectively.
- Scrutiny of PCCs is a vital element of the model.
- PCCs have a key role in helping the public to hold their PCC to account through effective scrutiny of PCCs actions and decisions.



Development of PCC role



- Continue to develop role to shape policing services to local needs and priorities
- Encourage greater joint working between emergency services
- PCCs and Fire Governance
- Criminal Justice System devolution
- Policing and Health Partners

Panel Effectiveness

- Policing and Crime Act 2017 enabled PCCs to take on governance of their local fire and rescue service.
- Commitment to better understand the role and resourcing of PCPs/PFCPs.
- Keen to work with you to understand what good scrutiny looks like and how funding is used.
- Engagement with HO officials in Summer/Autumn



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Police Complaints Reform: An Enhanced Role for PCCs

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July 2017

Police Complaints Reform - Policy Context

- Existing police complaints system often characterised as bureaucratic and opaque.
- We want a system that is more transparent and independent with effective local oversight
- And a system that is less adversarial for officers and encourages learning and improvement.



Policing and Crime Act 2017

CHAPTER 3

Explanatory Notes have been produced to assist in the understanding of this Act and are available separately

2017 Act provides for wide-ranging reforms to overall system of police integrity - complaints, police discipline, super-complaints and the powers of the IOPC



Enhanced role for Police and Crime Commissioners

- Under reforms in 2017 Act, PCCs will:
 - **OVERSIGHT** - be given an explicit function to hold the chief constable to account in relation to the handling of complaints locally;
 - **REVIEWS** - take on responsibility for complaints reviews/appeals which are currently heard internally by forces (**Model 1 - mandatory**); and
 - **INITIAL COMPLAINTS HANDLING AND COMMUNICATIONS** - give notice to the chief constable that they will take on certain other **optional** functions:
 - responsibility for the initial complaints handling (**Model 2**)
 - responsibility for initial complaints handling and contact with the complainant throughout the process (**Model 3**).
- PCC oversight and direct involvement in complaints handling provides an opportunity to gain powerful insights on how a local force operates and key concerns for members of the public.

Implementation

- Complaints reforms scheduled for implementation in April 2019 (in parallel with other key police integrity reforms).
- We will introduce a new set of Police “Complaints and Misconduct” Regulations (alongside commencement of primary legislation).
- Regulations will specify:
 - the steps a PCC must take before giving (or withdrawing) a notice to take on any of the optional functions (including consultation requirements); and
 - Who a PCC may or may not delegate their complaints functions to.

