

Safer Halton Policy Bulletin: May - August 2012

This Policy round-up summarises new policy, research, consultations and other publications that may be of interest to Safer Halton partners. It is provided as a series of short summaries, with links to the source documentation included for further information.

Research, General Information and Guidance

14/5/12 Baroness Newlove - Ten communities to tackle binge and underage drinking unveiled

The 10 communities that will lead work to tackle binge and underage drinking have been announced by the Government Champion for Active Safer Communities, Baroness Newlove. Over the next two years these innovative grassroots projects, backed by local authorities, police and retailers, are expected to deliver real results to end the fallout of problem drinking. Each successful bid had to demonstrate how their projects would be sustainable beyond the two years of the funding. Measures of their success will include:

- a reduction in the number of anti-social behaviour incidents related to alcohol consumption
- fewer A&E admissions to local hospitals or fewer ambulance call outs as a result of drinking
- the consumption of alcohol by young people reducing to safe levels; and
- a reduction in purchasing of alcohol made on behalf of under 18s ("proxy purchasing").

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2143865>

15/5/12 Local Government Association launches offer for police and crime commissioners

The LGA is proposing to be a national representative body for the police and crime commissioners once they are elected. Subscriptions will range from between £12,000 to £17,000 (excluding London and subject to agreement by LGA Resources Panel).

Subscriptions will be calculated according to the population of each police force area. Separate subscription arrangements would apply for those forces without a police and crime commissioner.

PCCs have the opportunity to have a free subscription period from 22 November to 31 March 2013.

<http://www.local.gov.uk/pcc/>

17/5/12 Home Office : Annual Review of Drug Strategy 2010

This is the first annual review of the Drug Strategy 2010. It provides a progress update on implementation of the strategy and includes an action plan for tackling the threat from new psychoactive substances

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/alcohol-drugs/drugs/annual-review-drug-strategy-2010/>

18/5/12 Department of Health: Delivering drugs and alcohol recovery bulletin

This is the online bulletin for the Payment by Results for Recovery Pilot Programme. It provides the latest news about the programme, events to promote payment by results and hear from pilot sites on how implementation is progressing.

<http://recoverypbr.dh.gov.uk/>

18/5/12 Police and Crime Commissioners – Candidate addresses

On 15 November 2012, the public across England and Wales will elect police and crime commissioners (PCCs) who will be accountable for how crime is tackled in their police force areas. This is the first election of this kind and, in order that they can exercise their vote effectively, the public will need information about the full range of candidates that are standing.

In order to aid candidates in reaching the public, the Home Office is proposing a single national website on which candidates can publish an 'election address'. This will allow every candidate, for free, to set out to the public what they would do if they were PCC. Every candidate will have an identical page to ensure they are treated equally, and as such will provide a level playing field for everyone seeking election.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/pcc-policy-equality-statement?view=Binary>

23/5/12 Delivering neighbourhood policing in partnership

The report sets out the benefits of delivering neighbourhood policing in partnership between neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs), partner agencies and residents in six local areas which were identified as having a strongly embedded partnership approach. The research is based on interviews with local partners and focus groups with residents conducted in these six areas between January and August 2010.

It also offers some advice to practitioners on how to work effectively in partnership, and how to overcome key barriers. The findings may also be informative for Police and Crime Commissioners in thinking about how local policing can best be delivered.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/horr61?view=Binary>

24/5/12 Home Office Research Report. An estimate of youth crime in England and Wales: Police recorded crime committed by young people in 2009/10

This report provides an estimate of the proportion and number of police recorded crimes committed by young people aged 10 to 17 in 2009/10. The analysis estimates that young people aged 10 to 17 were responsible for 23 per cent of police recorded crime in 2009/10, equivalent to just over a million police recorded crimes.

Although young people aged 10 to 17 were responsible for a minority of incidents of police recorded crime, the estimate of around one in four incidents of police recorded crime attributable to young people represents a disproportionate amount of crime given that 10- to 17-year-olds account for only about one in ten of the population above the age of criminal responsibility (age 10). This finding highlights the importance of tackling crime by young people in reducing overall levels of crime.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/horr64/horr64?view=Binary>

28/6/12 Results of LGA poll of Police and Crime Commissioner candidates

The survey found that PCC candidates believe:

- Party politics will have the most bearing on how people vote. 78 per cent said they thought political party would be among the factors that had the most bearing.
- Tackling anti-social behaviour would be a top priority for 69 per cent of candidates, while 50 per cent said clamping down on alcohol-related crime and disorder.
- Voter turnout will be low, with 75 per cent of candidates saying they expect it to be less than for council elections.
- Local councils were identified as a key partner organisation to work closely with by 89 per cent of candidates, while 67 per cent said the probation service and 58 per cent said voluntary sector
- Media profile will be a key factor in how people vote, according to 69 per cent of candidates, 61 per cent said knowledge of crime issues in the local area would also be a decider.

http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/media-releases/-/journal_content/56/10171/3629334/NEWS-TEMPLATE

2/7/12 Police and Crime Commissioners to determine local victims' services

Offenders will be forced to pay up to £50 million each year to help victims, the majority of which will be made available to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to spend on services in their area. This is on top of a share for PCCs of the £66 million each year central Government already dedicates to services supporting victims and witnesses.

Under plans set out today by the Ministry of Justice, democratically-elected PCCs will act as commissioners for a range of victims' services in their local area. They will commission emotional and practical support services which help individuals cope with, and recover from, the consequences of crime, ensuring that services meet local need, represent value for money and deliver real outcomes for victims.

PCCs will also be required to consult with victims in setting the policing priorities in their local area. This will ensure that, for the first time, victims of crime have a clear role in determining what the police should focus on and how. On 15 November 2012 the public will take to the polls to elect 41 Police and Crime Commissioners across England and Wales.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/pccs-victim-services>

24/5/12 MAPPA Guidance

Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are a framework of statutory arrangements operated by criminal justice and social care agencies that seek to manage and reduce the risk presented by sexual and violent offenders in order that re-offending is reduced and the public are protected. This is done by the sharing of information and the establishment of co-ordinated risk management plans that allow offenders to be effectively managed. The MAPPA guidance 2012 is a concise multi-agency document which effectively supports the management of MAPPA offenders.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/offenders/multi-agency-public-protection-arrangements>

19/7/12 Home Office: Police and Crime Commissioner candidate briefing - Working with others within your force area

These candidate briefings cover how police and crime commissioners should work with others in their force area. The briefings provide candidates with the information to help them understand partnership structures, working and initiatives.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/working-with-others/>

26/7/12 Home Office: Drug misuse declared - Findings from the 2011-12 crime survey for England and Wales

This release examines the extent and trends in illicit drug use among a nationally representative sample of 16 to 59 year olds resident in households in England and Wales.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/drugs-misuse-dec-1112/>

1/8/12 Listening to Troubled Families

Louise Casey Communities and Local Government has published Louise Casey's report Listening to Troubled Families "as a starting point" to get a deeper understanding of troubled families to help learn from successful interventions. Louise Casey is the Director General Troubled Families, CLG.

It calls for a longer term view and is based on Ms Casey's interviews with families in 16 local authorities, drawn largely from families involved in family intervention projects in 2006.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/listeningtroubledfamilies>

2/8/12 Police and Crime Commissioners Candidate briefing: working beyond your force area

These candidate briefings look at the national context for the police and crime commissioner (PCC), covering the role of key government departments and relevant agencies, and some important strands of operational (public order and international police assistance) and administrative work. The briefings are titled:-

- Dealing with public order
- Delivering value for money
- Providing international police assistance
- Working with the Attorney General

Working with the Secretary of State for Justice

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/working-beyond-force-area/>

2/8/12 Police and crime commissioners communications handbook

This handbook is intended to support and advise communicators in police forces and police authorities, however, partners who work in a communications role in the community safety or criminal justice sector may also find this handbook useful.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/communications-handbook>

6/8/12 101 ways councils will be helping Police and Crime Commissioners

With 101 days to go until elections for commissioners are held on November 15, the Local Government Association has pulled together a 101-strong list highlighting a selection of these key roles. Local government services, ranging from trading standards, licensing and protecting children to planning, parking and community safety, will all have a part to play in working with police.

Tackling problems caused by troubled families is a prime example of where councils and police are collaborating to provide a more effective service while getting better value for

money Key areas for joint working between PCCs and councils highlighted in the LGA list include:

- Council trading standards teams working with PCCs to tackle rogue traders, loan sharks, doorstep crime, scams, counterfeit goods and product safety concerns.
- Council hosted multi-agency Youth Offending teams bringing other organisations together with PCCs to help reduce crime and reoffending.
- Ward councillors providing a link between residents in their ward and commissioners who will need to take on board views from hundreds of thousands of people in large geographical areas.

http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/media-releases/-/journal_content/56/10171/3673580/NEWS-TEMPLATE

14/8/12 News Release from Electoral Commission - Lack of free candidate mailings in the Police and Crime Commissioner elections

Peter Wardle, the Electoral Commission's Chief Executive said: "The Electoral Commission recommended that the Government should arrange for a booklet to be sent to voters with information about all Police and Crime Commissioner candidates in their area. Ministers decided against this approach in favour of a candidate information website, with printed copies available on request.

We are now working with the Home Office to make sure voters have the information they need to take part in the November elections. We will send a booklet to every household so that people know about the elections and how to cast their vote.

"We also have a responsibility to monitor and report to Parliament on how the elections were run. As part of our assessment, we will look at what impact this new approach to providing candidate information had."

<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/news-and-media/news-releases/electoral-commission-media-centre/news-releases-campaigns/lack-of-free-candidate-mailings-in-the-police-and-crime-commissioner-elections>

15/8/12 Police and Crime Commissioner - Candidate briefings: national policy and strategy

The Home Office contributes to cutting crime and promoting community safety through its national policy and strategies. The Government recognise that PCCs, police forces and their partners are best placed to decide on what action is needed to tackle crime in their areas, but there are some aspects of crime and policing that need national strategies and nationally coordinated operational response. PCCs will need to be aware of these, and how they affect police and partners.

The briefings cover the topics listed below and cover areas where central government input is important, whether, for example, it is national co-ordination of our policing contribution to international law enforcement, or our work with the drinks and hospitality industries to reshape our national approach to alcohol.

- Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- Tackling drugs
- Tackling gangs and youth violence
- Tackling organised crime
- Tackling violence against women and girls

Legislation

1/5/12 Protection of Freedoms Act came into force on 1st May 2012

The Act includes the following provisions:

- further regulation of closed circuit television/automatic number plate recognition systems – introducing a statutory code of practice and the appointment of a surveillance camera commissioner with responsibility for reviewing and reporting on the operation of the code
- restrictions on the powers of government departments, local authorities and other public bodies to enter private homes and other premises for investigations and a requirement for all to examine and slim down remaining powers
- scrapping section 44 powers to stop and search
- prohibiting wheel clamping – creating a new criminal offence to immobilise, move or prevent the movement of a vehicle without lawful authority.
- freedom of information – extending the freedom of information regime to cover companies wholly owned by two or more public authorities
- right to data – creating an obligation on departments and other public authorities to proactively release datasets in a reusable format
- the liberalisation of marriage laws to allow people to marry outside the hours of 8am-6pm

widening of the existing offence of trafficking for forced labour and ensuring that UK nationals who commit trafficking offences anywhere in the world can be prosecuted under UK law

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/protection-of-freedoms>

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/9/contents/enacted>

1/5/12 Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Bill receives Royal Assent

The Bill includes a range of improvements to the justice system, including:-

- Creating a new offence of threatening people with a knife in public or at schools, with a mandatory prison sentence.
- Criminalising squatting in people's homes and creating a new offence to appropriately punish drivers who seriously injure others by driving dangerously.
- Changing the terms of no-win no-fee law suits to stop lawyers being able to double their fees through payments which have driven up insurance premiums and left local authorities, hospitals and businesses threatened by high legal costs. Banning referral fees will also help to stop middle-men making unreasonably high profits.

Focusing legal aid on cases where legal help is most needed, where people's life or liberty is at stake or they are at risk of serious physical harm, face immediate loss of their home or their children may be taken into care, and reducing the £2.1 billion per year legal aid bill for England and Wales.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/press-releases/moj/royal-assent-for-legal-aid,-sentencing-and-punishment-of-offenders-bill>

9/5/12 Queens Speech - Crime and Courts Bill

The Queen's Speech announced that a Bill will be introduced to establish the National Crime Agency to tackle the most serious and organised crime and strengthen border security. The courts and tribunals service will be reformed to increase efficiency, transparency and judicial diversity

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/queens-speech-2012-background-briefing-notes>

9/5/12 Queens Speech - Government crack down on drug driving

Legislation unveiled in the Queen's Speech will create a specific drug driving offence. Currently police have to demonstrate that driving had been impaired by drugs in order to prosecute.

Under the proposed legislation it will automatically be an offence to drive a motor vehicle if you have certain controlled drugs in your body in excess of specified limits. This will make it much easier for police to take action against drug drivers.

Devices to screen for drugs in the body are expected to receive type approval from the Home Office by the end of the year.

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/news/press-releases/dft-press-20120509a>

22/5/12 Antisocial Behaviour White Paper

This white paper sets out the government's plans to introduce more effective measures to tackle antisocial behaviour. This includes **helping agencies to identify and support high risk victims, giving frontline professionals more freedom**, including using informal measures for example using restorative or reparative approaches, or Acceptable Behaviour Contracts where appropriate, **Improving our understanding of the experiences of victims**, for example by improving the way anti-social behaviour is measured in the Crime Survey for England & Wales. Also **ensuring professionals have the powers they need** to deal with the persistent anti-social behaviour which causes serious harm to victims or their community by **Introducing faster, more effective formal powers** including a civil injunction that agencies can use immediately to protect victims and communities before an individual causes serious harm, a new court order for the most anti-social individuals, available on conviction, that allows the courts to require them to stop their behaviour and address its underlying causes, powers to close premises that are a magnet for trouble and a more effective police power to stop anti-social behaviour in public places. Also **speeding up the eviction of anti-social tenants and focusing on long term solutions to anti-social behaviour by addressing** the issues that drive much of it in the first place – binge drinking, drug use, mental health issues, troubled family backgrounds and irresponsible dog ownership.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/anti-social-behaviour/white-paper/>

29/6/12 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims (Amendment) Act 2012

From Monday 2.7.12, anyone who deliberately causes or allows serious physical harm to a child or vulnerable adult faces up to 10 years in prison. Taking effect in England and Wales, it also enables prosecutions of people who stay silent or blame someone else. Guidance is being sent to prosecutors, judges and others on the new law.

The move follows a number of cases where prosecutions could not be brought because it was impossible to identify the individual responsible for the abuse.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/4/contents/enacted>

6/7/12 New Law for missing persons

Families of missing people will be given greater support when a loved one goes missing with today's announcement that the Government will introduce a certificate of presumed death – through legislation. This certificate will be equivalent to a death certificate in its legal power and will go a long way in simplifying the processes and problems faced by those left behind. Having a presumption of death certificate in place will help families to deal with the array of legal and financial issues that need to be resolved when a person is missing and presumed dead, such as direct debits with a mobile phone company or access to bank accounts.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/press-releases/moj/new-law-for-missing-persons>

13/8/12 Registered sex offenders face tougher checks

All registered sex offenders will face much tougher checks from today (13 August). The new measures will tighten areas of the current law that could be open to exploitation by offenders who seek to cause harm. The changes, which the government announced earlier this year (5 March) following a 12 week consultation, will make it mandatory for sex offenders to notify the police:

- of all foreign travel, including travel outside the UK for one day
- weekly where they can be found when they have no fixed abode
- where they reside or stay for at least 12 hours with a child under the age of 18
- of certain information in relation to their passports or other identity documents, bank accounts and credit and debit cards

The Home Office [has published new guidance for the police and probation service](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/tougher-checks-for-sex-offenders) on the changes, which are set out within Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/tougher-checks-for-sex-offenders>

Data and Statistical Releases

New – Halton Health in numbers

To support work around the public health agenda, R&I have produced a "[Halton Health in Numbers](#)"

Halton's Health Profile 2012

The Association of Public Health Authorities (APHO) have released local authority health profiles for 2012 (commissioned by the Department of Health). The [Halton Health Profile](#) is now available, with the data in the profile highlighting particular issues around: alcohol specific hospital stays (under 18); female life expectancy; and early deaths by cancers.

Measuring National Wellbeing – The 'Happiness Index'

ONS have published initial estimates of subjective well-being from their own 'Measuring National Well-being' Programme. The report provides overall estimates of people's own views of their well-being from four subjective well-being questions introduced on the Annual Population Survey in April 2011. Halton residents responded positively to these questions, recording higher than average scores at both regional and national level for satisfaction. The full report can be found [here](#). The Guardian have also produced an [interactive map](#) of Britain which displays how each region fared in comparison to the rest of the country.

First 2011 Census Output – Age and sex of population and usual household counts

On Monday 16th July the Office for National Statistics (ONS) released the first output from the 2011 Census. This release contains population and household estimated counts at local authority level. The [local authority level data from this release](#) can be found on the Office for National Statistics website.

- The population estimate of Halton from the 2011 Census is 125,800 with an estimated 53,300 households. This compares with the 2001 Census population estimate of 118,210.

More data and information from the 2011 Census will appear on the Research and Intelligence [Census web page](#)

Consultation Update

The [findings from the Halton Residents' Survey 2011](#). The results have been split into five topic areas and each consist of a short 'dashboard' report.

Funding Opportunities

19/7/12 BIG Announces New £6 Million Assist Programme

The Big Lottery Fund and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations have come together for a new £6 million initiative to help voluntary sector support and development organisations become more effective. The "Assist" programme is the first stage of Big Lottery Fund's Building Capabilities for Impact and Legacy approach. It is a new approach in providing capacity-building investments, as the majority of funding will go directly to local support and development organisations. These organisations will then be able to choose what support they need in order to adapt their services to changing needs, funding and expectations of frontline organisations. Some of the areas covered by the menu of support services will include:

- Establishing trading and new business models
- Promoting collaboration and partnership
- Connections to the public sector; creating efficiency
- Developing and managing assets
- Connecting to the frontline
- Co-production
- Promoting equalities/addressing inequalities
- Leadership and demonstrating impact.

Further information, including details of how national experts can apply to be included on the menu of support services and how local and specialist support providers can register interest in receiving support, will be made available in September 2012.

http://news.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr_100712_ass_eng_backing_for_sector_support?regioncode=-uk

12/7/12 Investment and Contract Readiness Fund

The Social Investment Business (SIB), the UK's largest investor in social ventures, has announced that the £10 million Investment and Contract Readiness Fund is now accepting applications.

The new fund aims to build the capacity of social enterprises to become investment ready and bid for public service contracts. Through the Fund grants between £50,000 and

£150,000 are available on a rolling basis to ambitious social enterprises who will go on to raise at least £500,000 investment, or who want to bid for contracts over £1 million. Grants are awarded primarily to fund revenue costs. The Fund can be used towards equipment costs, but cannot be used to acquire fixed assets with a total purchase cost (including VAT) in excess of £5,000. Ventures will be required to apply in partnership with an approved provider.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

<http://www.beinvestmentready.org.uk/about/>

Training Opportunities

Halton Safeguarding Children Board Autumn/Winter training overview September-December 2012



HSCB Autumn
Training Schedule.pdf

Race Awareness

1st November 2012, Willow Room, Municipal Building, Widnes

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