

The Durham Police & Crime Board



After reflecting on the potential risks and benefits of Directly Elected Police and Crime Commissioners as outlined in 'Policing in the 21st Century: Reconnecting Police and the People',



Members of Durham Police Authority have agreed that a refined governance model be submitted to the Home Office for consideration.

The Durham Model builds on the Government's plans to introduce a democratically elected component whilst also

embedding the necessary checks and balances through having in place a robust governance structure to mitigate a number of key risks. These include extremist leadership and the politicisation of policing.

We believe that our model would be more cost effective, business like and much more akin to proven models elsewhere in the public and independent sectors.

The Durham Model is based on the following criteria:

1. That Durham Police Authority be replaced by the **Durham Police & Crime Board** to help raise public awareness of its function in policing, to promote presence, purpose, to inform and to be consistent with other changes in governance across the public sector.
2. That the **Police and Crime Board** be granted Trust Status so that it can innovate funding opportunities from other National and European sources, from other public and private sector funding bodies, the Voluntary and Charitable Sector, for the overall benefit of the local communities that it serves.
3. That the **Police and Crime Board** be led and chaired by the directly elected **Police and Crime Commissioner** and comprise **5 Appointed Non-Executive Directors**.
4. The **5 Appointed Non-Executive Directors** will include a mix of elected councillors and independent members who will be assessed against a rigorous competency framework.
5. A **Home Office representative** will join the **local Joint Committee** to **assess against prescribed criteria candidates for election as PCC's** . The Joint Committee (including the Home Office representative) **will**

also assess applications for and appoint the Non Executive Directors. The local Joint Committee will include elected members of all parties.










6. **The Home Office representative and local Joint Committee** will also agree a short-list of candidates for the PCC election process.
7. Following election for a 4 year term the PCC will report back to the electorate on his/her achievements on an annual basis through the **Police and Crime Board Annual Report**. A specified number of activities will also be agreed to be delivered by the **Police and Crime Board** and will be monitored by the **Police and Crime Board Standards Committee**.
8. The **Police and Crime Board** will engage with the **Chief Constable, partners and local communities** to define local policing priorities.
9. The **5 Non-Executive Directors** will also be appointed on a 4 year term and will be allocated **portfolios** to reflect these key local priorities.
10. The **Police and Crime Board** will have a **Commissioning Budget** to fund local priority crime prevention initiatives, research and the delivery of specific projects agreed by the PCC.
11. A strong capacity requirement of the Board will be developed through establishing **Volunteer Task and Finishing Groups**.
12. The **Police and Crime Board** will be supported by a **Commissioning Office**. This will be a lean support organisation consisting of some self-funded posts, some of which will be self-financing through sponsorship opportunities as well as some jointly commissioned posts working with Health, Fire and Rescue etc such as Community Engagement & Partnership activity.
13. If not appointed to the **Police and Crime Board**, **Local Authority Councillor Portfolio Holders for Community Safety** will have a default co-opted place on the Board to ensure consistency with **Community Partnership Strategies**.
14. In assisting the PCC to hold the Chief Constable to account, the **Police and Crime Board** will have regard to the functions and responsibilities of **Local Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committees** particularly in the provision of monitoring and programme assurance of partnership activity in delivering the right outcomes for communities.



Durham's Proposed Governance Model for Local Policing



| The benefits for the Public | Durham Police & Crime Board | The Current Coalition Government's Model |
|---|---|---|
|  <p data-bbox="386 1402 691 1472">"Keep Politics out of Policing"</p> |  |  |
|  <p data-bbox="396 1619 691 1751">"Embed a culture of customer focus and value for money in public services"</p> |  |  |

| The benefits for the Public | Durham Police & Crime Board | The Current Coalition Government's Model | |
|---|--|---|---|
|  | <p>“Make sure that local communities are socially cohesive and protect us from extremist views”</p> |  |  |
|  | <p>“Help to keep us safe from serious crime & terrorism”</p> |  |  |
|  | <p>“Empower us through greater local representation so that we have a stronger voice on local policing”</p> |  |  |