



Association of
Police and Crime
Commissioners

APCC
IMPACT REPORT
2019/20



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IMPACT Report 2019/20

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Year Two Review 2019/20

Introduction: Katy Bourne OBE

Reflections on a surprising year

Well that was not a year that I nor anybody else expected. A Christmas General Election, a 'levelling up' budget in March quickly followed by lockdown and the tragic toll of coronavirus and subsequent economic impact. The postponement of local and PCC elections barely registered, local governance issues seemed unimportant by comparison.

Protests about systemic racism and claims of prejudiced policing led to calls to "defund" and disband police forces which were loudly matched by demands to lock up protestors for ignoring social distancing.

Five months later, we can see just how localised some of the response to the pandemic actually was. Individual police forces were interpreting legislation on which the ink was barely dry and, like me, many PCCs were on the airwaves everyday asking the public to stay at home and reduce unnecessary demand on police.

Lockdown reduced opportunities for crime in public spaces but created a cyber-paradise for online crime and abuse. The pressure cooker of lockdown increased the dangers of domestic abuse which PCCs reacted to swiftly by securing, targeting and expediting vital funds for support services.

With our established, quality-assured provider networks and functioning partnerships, PCCs were well placed to channel funding to help target-hardened communities and businesses against crime through bids into the £25m Safer Streets fund. We also increased funding for our local Violence Reduction Units.

It has been a privilege to be amongst colleagues who have been steadfastly representing their local communities at a time when we face socio-economic challenges that will affect behaviour and drive some people into crime.

The maintenance of law and order will be fundamental to our recovery and we simply cannot afford to lose the confidence and consent of the public.

Policing needs to anticipate what's coming and we need to harness technology and data - and that includes in our legal system. Access to justice cannot be delivered if victims wait months or even years to be heard in court.

Partnerships need equal participation because police forces can no longer be expected to step forward where other services have pulled back.

The Uplift Programme for 20,000 additional police officers is very welcome but we all recognise the need for longer term financial certainty to bring stability.

Forces will need to build trust through transparency, performance and rooting out racism and inequality. Businesses need to know the police will arrest shoplifters. Rural communities must feel protected and not isolated. All our residents need to believe the police are there for *all* of them - the role of a PCC as their representative voice is now more important than ever.

Katy Bourne OBE, PCC
Chair, APCC (July 2019 - July 2020)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Bourne', written in a cursive style.



Forward Look

Paddy Tipping

This is a great opportunity to lead an organisation that is driving positive change across every police force in England and Wales. The APCC's influence is vital for the safety and well-being of communities over the next year as the UK continues to recover from the impact of coronavirus and the ever-present risks of serious violence.

The decisions and action we take now to navigate this difficult period in our history will be vital for building trust and shaping policing in the future. Through the APCC, we must use our powerful, collective voice to build a police service that is not only fit for the 21st century but has the implicit support of the public.

So far, 2020 has brought unprecedented challenges to policing but also provided new potential for growth and evolution as forces sought new approaches to old problems and took greater care to understand their diverse and unique communities.

Police funding will remain sharply in focus with the forthcoming Comprehensive Spending Review 2020 providing some long-awaited detail on how forces will be resourced and prepared to meet future challenges. We need to build on the Government's commitment of 20,000 extra officers through Operation Uplift.

The policing landscape has seen radical change. We are more aligned and coordinated in our efforts and there is a real emphasis on building resilience within our communities to prevent crime and give the people within them opportunities to flourish.

The APCC must capitalise on its growing influence to achieve far-reaching reforms that will strengthen public trust, improve collaboration and consistency across policing nationally and remove the barriers that prevent communities from thriving.

Together, we must take on those challenges and make change happen.

Paddy Tipping
Current APCC Chair





What We Do

Role of a Police and Crime Commissioner

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

MAY 6th
2021



- Elected to represent your views on policing and crime locally. **Directly accountable to you**, the public



Some Police and Crime Commissioners are also responsible for their local **Fire and Rescue Services**



- Commissions dedicated **local victim support services**, that you can access to **help you cope and recover**, if you become a victim of crime



Holds the **Chief Constable to account** for delivering an effective and efficient police service

- Funds **crime prevention services** to address issues such as drug and alcohol misuse, youth crime and anti-social behaviour to keep **your communities safe**

What does your Police and Crime Commissioner do for you?

YOU HAVE A VOICE ...



Appoints the **Chief Constable** who runs the operational side of policing in your force area



- After **consulting local people**, publishes a **Police and Crime Plan** to identify local priorities and how they plan to meet them

Sets the police budget, decides how much **you pay towards policing** from your council tax, to add to the funding from central Government and decides how that combined money is spent



- Works with local authorities, health and education services, plus the voluntary sector and local businesses to create a **joined-up response** to local problems



- Works with national and local policing and **Criminal Justice partners** to reduce crime and help **make communities safer**



Police and Crime Commissioners are a voice for their local community around policing and community safety, engaging the public in decision making to ensure greater transparency and accountability.



Role of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

The Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) is the national body that supports PCCs, and other local policing bodies across England and Wales, to provide national leadership and drive strategic change in the policing, criminal justice and wider community safety landscape, to help keep our communities safe.

In 2019/20, the APCC had the membership of all 40 PCCs in England and Wales as well as the City of London Police Authority, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime for the Greater London Authority, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and the Jersey Police Authority.



The APCC operates independently of Government and is supported by a small team of policy and communication professionals.

Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

Our Five Priority Areas:

1 FUNDING, EFFICIENCY AND TRANSFORMATION

- Secure the best possible funding and resources for policing.
- Support the delivery of local police and crime plans.
- Deliver the Policing Vision 2025.
- Improve efficiency, effectiveness and productivity across policing and the wider Criminal Justice System.

2 DEVELOPING LOCAL COMMISSIONING

- Expand and strengthen the role of Commissioners into:
 - Local criminal justice services devolution.
 - Devolution of funding for victims and witness services.
 - Emergency services collaboration
 - Commissioners' role in police complaints system.

3 COMMUNICATING AND ENGAGING

- Build and maintain a strong national profile.
- Proactively engage with the media, key stakeholders and national influencers.
- Deliver a range of events and campaigns to influence and set the agenda.

4 SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND GOOD PRACTICE

- Share learning and ideas across Commissioners and their teams through the delivery of an APCC Knowledge Hub.
- Working with APACE and PACCTs develop knowledge and capability networks across OPCCs and APCC.

5 DELIVERING A NATIONAL POLICY PORTFOLIO STRUCTURE

- Deliver a programme of national portfolios and networks addressing key strategic areas of policing, criminal justice and wider community safety to drive change and deliver results.

OUR PRIORITY AREAS

ACRONYM KEY:

APACE:
Association of Policing and Crime Chief Executives

PACCTS:
Police and Crime Commissioners Treasurers' Society

OPCC:
Office of Police and Crime Commissioner

APCC:
Association of Police and Crime Commissioners



Our Priorities

Priority One:

Funding, Efficiency and Transformation

Key achievements include:

Funding and Efficiency

PCCs continue to work with partners to develop a strong evidence base and articulate a compelling narrative for the Joint Spending Review submission, which we now anticipate will conclude in autumn 2020. We have emphasised the importance of an accurate 'baseline' for the review highlighting the key elements that must be included in the policing submission to sustain the service and to deliver national strategic priorities including the Police Uplift Programme. We continue to press for a revised funding formula, and to ensure that PCCs are central to any consultation and development process.

The APCC has worked closely with PCCs, the NPCC and the Home Office to deliver further efficiencies and improve productivity across policing. In 2019-20 we contributed to improvements that delivered savings that surpassed the target set for us by government of £30m of cashable procurement savings and £6m of back office service savings by March 2020. We led on the creation of a new PCC-led organisation, BlueLight Commercial, which will transform commercial and procurement functions across policing and more widely and will further improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing.

The APCC has also played a key role in capturing and analysing additional budgetary pressures as a result of COVID-19 and representing these to Government. We have successfully made the case for freeing up funding to address COVID-19 cost pressures as well as ensuring that Government reimburses policing for their spend on COVID-19 related PPE.

Transforming the system through technology

The APCC and the NPCC produced a ten-year National Digital Policing Strategy, which was launched at the Police ICT Summit 2020. This sets out a road map for digital transformation of policing in response to current as well as new and more complex forms of criminality.

We continue to ensure that PCCs play a central role in the governance and accountability structures for national digital programmes, providing oversight on behalf of the public and building on our track record of providing leadership on technology and championing its role in transforming policing. In addition, we continue to support the PCC chaired Police ICT Company, which was set up by PCCs to help develop police technology, getting more from technological investments and better value for public money by providing technical insight and support for policing.

Throughout 2019-20, we supported the PCC chair and wider members of the Police Reform and Transformation Board (PRTB) representing partners from across policing, to take forward the ambitious and transformative work programme in place to deliver the [Policing Vision 2025](#). The PRTB Board has led in commissioning and overseeing projects funded by the Police Transformation Fund (PTF) - which provided £175m of funding to support innovation and transformation across policing.

Examples of projects delivered through this programme in 2019-20 include:

- *The Transforming Forensics (TF) Programme* is rolling out the new Forensic Capability Network (FCN) which went live on 1 April 2020 to strengthen and develop forensics services across police forces. Other work includes the development of the new Digital Forensics Science Strategy
- *Single Online Home (SOH)* will provide all police services with a nationally consistent, locally branded online 'digital police station'. By March 2020, the SOH service was available to 56% (33.23m) people across England and Wales. SOH continued to deliver against its business case, with benefits realised exceeding original forecasts. Quantifiable benefits of £3.23m have been calculated for 18 SOH forces being tracked between the months of April 2019 and January 2020. Additionally, actual call volumes show an estimated 34% reduction in 101 call during the period measured. Whilst this reduction cannot be singularly attributed to SOH it demonstrates the positive impact the service is having by providing a digital contact channel.
- *The National Enabling Programmes (NEP)* continued to be rolled out including: Identity and Access Management which will provide a shared digital work environment across all forces; Productivity Services including the deployment of Microsoft Office 365 across all Forces; and the National Management Centre which will provide 24/7 capability to detect, protect, monitor and respond to cyber threats. In 2019/20 31 forces had approval to move to the pilot stage of the programme and 27 forces connected to the Interim Management Centre (the precursor to the National Management Centre).

At the end of March 2020, the decision was made to begin to wind down the PTF programmes and wherever possible and where they had demonstrated benefits, move them into 'business as usual'. The APCC has ensured that PCCs continue to play a central role in new national policing structures that are now being developed and that will shape and drive forward the further transformation of policing. This includes having PCC representation on the new National Policing Board, chaired by the Home Secretary, and its sub-boards.

Workforce transformation

Police transformation is ultimately about people and their skills, ensuring they have the best possible skills, support, equipment and training to help keep their communities safe. Throughout 2019-20, the APCC has ensured that PCCs are working closely with their partners across policing and in Government to provide national leadership for the delivery of the Police Uplift Programme to recruit 20,000 police officers by 2023. PCCs are working alongside their Chief Constables to use this important opportunity to develop the diversity of police forces to enable them to better reflect the communities they serve.

Commercial collaboration

The Collaborative Law Enforcement Procurement (CLEP) programme continued to support the delivery of more efficient procurement services across policing by providing national initiatives including the National Uniform Managed Service (NUMS). In 2019/20, this helped deliver £40.6m of cashable savings against the target of £30m.

In addition, PCCs led in the formation of a new Police Commercial Organisation called BlueLight Commercial. BlueLight Commercial was registered as a company on 13 March 2020 and the new Board was established on the 1 April 2020. All PCCs are members of the Company and the Company is chaired by a PCC. The Company has an ambitious programme of collaborative commercial activities in place and seeks to increase efficiencies to enhance savings, including through procuring some services and commodities on a national basis.



Our Priorities

Priority Two:

Supporting Victims: Developing Local Victims and CJ Commissioning

Key achievements include:

Local Criminal Justice Services

PCCs continue to champion the needs of victims at a local level, including the commissioning of support services to help victims cope and recover. In 19/20 the APCC helped to secure the £68m that PCCs were able to invest in local victims' services, improving the accessibility, reach and quality of general and specialist services to victims of crime.

Through the APCC, PCCs have continued to work with partners to take forward work in developing the role of the PCC in transforming local criminal justice (CJ) systems, enabling all CJ agencies to deliver a more joined up, locally accountable service to victims and the public. PCCs, as Chairs of Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJBs), have a key role to play in making this happen, and the APCC continues to work nationally to ensure the critical role of PCCs and LCJBs is recognised and reflected - for example, by supporting PCC representation on the National Criminal Justice Board and facilitating network meetings for LCJB chairs to share learning and good practice.

In addition, the APCC has delivered:

- an enhanced role for PCCs in the new probation service arrangements which will help to develop and join up local services to reduce reoffending - a joint APCC/MOJ Working Group has continued to shape the development of the new probation arrangements and the PCC role within them;
- an enhanced PCC role in leading local CJ Partnerships - with continued constructive engagement with MOJ to look at how the PCC role in the criminal justice system (CJS) might be further developed and enhanced;
- influence on CJS policy at a national level - working through the APCC CJS Portfolio and Standing group (which MOJ, Home Office, NPCC and CPS attend) the APCC has successfully influenced national policy, for example, by engaging with the CPS on the development of their new strategy: working with the Government's cross CJS rape review to improve outcomes for rape victims; seeking an increase in Crown Court Sitting days to reduce backlogs; supporting PCCs in their innovative work to develop and test approaches to Video Enabled Justice;
- a leading role in the CJS response to the COVID-19 crisis, including highlighting the critical role of LCJBs and supporting PCCs in their local leadership roles delivering innovative responses to the significant challenges facing the CJS as a result of Covid including work to respond to the court backlog; working with the National Criminal Justice Board and the COVID-19 Gold and Silver Command groups.

Victim and witness services

Throughout 19/20 PCCs have continued to build on their important role as lead commissioners of local support services for victims, helping and protecting victims and survivors of crime. Some of the innovative work that PCCs have taken forward to reduce violence against women and girls was highlighted in our “*In Focus*” publications. Throughout the Covid crisis, PCCs worked closely with Government to secure an additional £20+ million of new funding to provide additional support to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence during the pandemic, ensuring they received the services they need to keep themselves and their families safe and supported.

PCCs have a new, formal responsibility for the local monitoring of CJ agencies' compliance with the *Victims' Code of Practice (VCOP)*. This means that PCCs hold CJ agencies to account for their delivery against the victims' code, ensuring victims get the services they are entitled to. The APCC has supported PCCs to discharge their responsibilities for monitoring the VCOP and consulted with members to influence and shape the review of the Code.

We have maintained a strong focus on and commitment to support for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence, including successfully making the case for further devolution of support services for victims of sexual violence so that PCCs can ensure funding is effectively targeted at local support and advice services to deliver better outcomes for victims and engaging with the government's end-to-end review of the handling of rape and other sexual violence cases.

Fire and emergency services collaboration

The APCC has continued to support PCCs as they develop closer collaborations with their local blue light partners in both fire and rescue services and ambulance services, and we have worked closely with the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and wider health partners in taking this forward. In addition, we have supported Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners (PFCCs), who have responsibility for the governance of local fire and rescue services as well as policing, in delivering on their new role and responsibilities. We are committed to continue raising the benefits and awareness of PFCC fire and rescue governance amongst PCCs, across government and with wider fire and rescue stakeholders.

The police complaints system

We have helped PCCs and their offices to prepare for and implement the new complaints reform system, ensuring that the new regulations and guidance are clear and accessible, and that PCCs offices are provided with all the information and training they need in implementing the new system. With PCCs now having a more central role in the police complaints system on behalf of the public, this is ultimately making the complaints process more transparent and responsive and improving public confidence.



Our Priorities

Priority Three:

Communicating and Engaging

Key achievements include:

Building and maintaining a strong national profile

This year saw the continuation of the *PCCs Making A Difference campaigns*, a series of publications and programme of communications activity, under the campaign strapline of 'PCCs Making A Difference'. These publications highlighted the positive impact of the work that Police and Crime Commissioners are doing in their local communities and nationally.

Four more 'In Focus' digital publications on:

- *Putting Victims First* • *Prevention* • *Alcohol and Drugs*
- *Protecting the Vulnerable through the Covid crisis*

All were published with Ministerial and stakeholder support.



The APCC continued to add content to its user-friendly website, including more video content. Building on last year's 'You Have A Voice' video the APCC published a new 'What does your Police and Crime Commissioner do for you?' infographic.

The APCC supplied OPCCs with localised versions of the "You Have A Voice" video, which clearly explains the role of PCCs, what they do for their local communities, and how the public can get involved. This included a Welsh language version.



Ahead of the subsequently postponed PCC elections in May 2020, the APCC developed and published pre-election PCC guidance and a PCC candidate briefing, and this will now form the basis of our briefings and guidance for the rescheduled PCC elections in May 2021. We are also developing a comprehensive induction programme for new PCCs which will be rolled out from May 2021.

Promoting public affairs activity

The APCC holds the Secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Policing and Security and, despite General Election purdah, in 2019/20 it held 10 meetings in Parliament. The APPG provides an informal opportunity for members of both Houses of Parliament to deepen their knowledge and interest in an area, by listening to and learning from experts and practitioners from within policing and discussing topics and issues with them.

PCCs, through the APCC, continue to influence Parliamentary discussions and reports, more than ever looking to formally brief MPs and Lords across both Houses on issues of importance to both policing, victims and criminal justice. We continue to provide written briefings to Parliamentary Committees on a range of issues, driven primarily via the APCC portfolio structure and leads. We have introduced a weekly public affairs 'bullet report' providing a snapshot of Parliamentary business over the previous week, and continue to deliver a legislation tracker which allows OPCCs to better anticipate and engage with upcoming Parliamentary discussions.

In terms of Select Committee engagement, the APCC briefed and supported PCCs ahead of their appearance at the Home Affairs Select Committee to discuss the Macpherson review. PCCs also gave oral evidence to this Committee as part of a serious violence inquiry, to the Health and Social Care Committee as part of its drugs policy inquiry and to the Public Accounts Committee on response to Serious Organised Crime. We have made APCC submissions to the inquiry on Home Office preparedness for Covid-19 (Coronavirus), including a focus on Domestic Abuse, and supported an APCC response to a Women and Equalities Committee inquiry on Coronavirus.

Proactively engaging with the media, key stakeholders and national influencers

The APCC communications team continues to run a professional, responsive and flexible press office - engaging with the media both proactively and reactively. For the third year, the APCC held a media reception with journalists, enabling PCCs to engage with key personnel in the media.

The APCC communications team is engaging with our stakeholders more than ever, sitting on stakeholder groups and proactively reaching out. We have launched an external stakeholder newsletter, which you can read on the [APCC website](#).

We have more of a presence on social media, increased use of videos and have built stronger relationships with media outlets that are looking at PCCs to provide comment and analysis.

The APCC continues to distribute a daily briefing to all members, which includes a summary of Parliamentary activity and localised PCC coverage. It continues with its Red Box briefing to members, within which it has enhanced its PCC activity pages - sharing best practice amongst all PCCs and their teams.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Communicator Network met throughout the year, holding workshops, sharing knowledge, learning and good practice with guest speakers from government, industry and the media. We are also facilitating a workshop at the APComm Annual Academy in November.

APCC & NPCC Partnership Summit 2020

Although it was twice postponed due to elections etc, the joint APCC / NPCC policing summit was finally delivered in February 2020 and was hugely successful. It was the fifth joint summit and was the most well attended to date. As always, this event brought together senior leaders, politicians, experts and decision-makers to discuss and shape solutions to some of the most complex issues facing law enforcement.

Key themes explored included how the police and partners are planning and implementing a programme of recruitment for 20,000 new officers; responding to current operational challenges, including serious violence; building a smarter policing system; and ensuring a greater focus on crime prevention. As always, there were breakout sessions covering a range of diverse topic areas, including: workforce, victims, local policing, the criminal justice system and digital technology.

Over twenty videos were produced throughout the two days and included interviews with speakers, panellists and APCC portfolio leads – view the APCC Summit Playlist on the [APCC YouTube channel](#). Alongside the videos, professional photos, capturing the highlights over the course of the two days, were also tweeted. This social media activity resulted in #policeconf20 trending on Twitter for most of the first day.



To view just some of the many **#policeconf20** tweets, have a look at our [Summit Twitter Moments](#). You can also view videos, photos, tweets and the Summit Programme on the [Summit page](#).



Our Priorities

Priority Four:

Sharing Knowledge and Good Practice

More than ever, the APCC has looked to share knowledge and good practice amongst our PCC members, their offices, and our policing partners.

Key achievements include:

Knowledge Hub



KNOWLEDGE HUB

The APCC is developing the presence of our APCC portfolio groups on the Police Knowledge Hub so that we can engage members, disseminate information, discuss relevant issues, and share good practice in specific areas of interest. The APCC is committed to increasing online activity and dialogue in key policy areas between APCC portfolio leads, PCCs and OPCCs in order to provide opportunities to come together to discuss key national issues, disseminate information and share good practice.

APCC Knowledge Sharing Events and Networks

The APCC has delivered a large number of impactful knowledge-sharing events (in person and virtually) with our national partners across the policing, criminal justice and voluntary sectors during this period.

These events have included:

- Running Deep Dive sessions for members, including on issues such as police workforce development, the Police Uplift programme, Brexit and mental health.
- Facilitating APCC General Meetings throughout the year to provide our members with the opportunity to meet with Ministers and senior stakeholders, debate key issues and share information on national developments, as well as enabling them to express views on critical strategic issues to inform national debate.
- Holding our Joint Annual Policing Summit alongside the National Police Chiefs' Council.

Alongside the number of 'In Focus' documents now published on the [PCCs Making A Difference](#) page the APCC continues to disseminate best practice amongst members. This includes through the Daily Briefings and PCC update section of its fortnightly newsletter.



Our Priorities

Priority Five:

Delivering a National Policy Portfolio Structure

Key achievements include:

Reducing Serious Violence

The APCC Serious Violence portfolio has helped to secure £35m funding for PCC-led Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) in 18 local areas announced in August 2019, and then a further £35 million announced later. It has supported PCCs to establish and develop the work of VRUs and to reduce serious violence - for example, to bring partners together to prevent the recruitment of vulnerable young people by organised crime gangs. We are equally committed to working with PCCs outside VRU areas to develop similar approaches in their localities informed by the VRU experience. .

Serious Organised Crime and Specialist Capabilities

PCCs have continued to play an important role working with the National Crime Agency and policing partners in tackling serious organised crime, including work in support of Regional Organised Crime Units. PCCs have also contributed to the Government's review of serious organised crime, helping to develop a more joined-up response across local, regional, national and international policing. Another key area of activity in 2019-20 has been improving the police response to fraud, including engaging with the review of Action Fraud, working closely with partners in the City of London Police Authority and Police Force who lead the national response to tackling fraud, and hosting a national conference in partnership with colleagues in the West Midlands to further develop policing responses to tackle fraud.

Wales



COMISIYNYDD
HEDDLU A THROSEDDU
DYFED-POWYS
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER



De Cymru
Comisynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddau
Police and Crime Commissioner
South Wales



SWYDDFA COMISIYNYDD HEDDLU
A THROSEDDU Gogledd Cymru
OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER NORTH WALES



Swyddfa Comisynydd
Yr Heddlu a Throseddau
GWENT
Office of Police and
Crime Commissioner

The APCC continues to support our 4 Commissioners in Wales as they work across policing and criminal justice partners in the UK and in Welsh Government.

Policing in Wales operates within a mainly devolved public service context and whilst responsibility for policing remains with the UK Government, a significant number of other areas are devolved, which means that there is a need to respond to different laws. The responses to the Covid pandemic illustrated how Commissioners responded effectively to the different approaches taken across England and Wales. The responsibility for policing in Wales remains with the UK Government.

The APCC team now includes a dedicated Wales policy lead who works across the APCC and the 4 Wales PCCs to further develop and improve our support to Wales. The 4 Welsh Commissioners have recently established a Policing Partnership Board for Wales which is chaired by the First Minister of Wales.



Forensics

The importance of forensic science to the criminal justice system (CJS) cannot be underestimated, with its work ranging from tackling terrorism to acquisitive crime. This portfolio has played a leading role in developing a stable market of forensic service providers, working with the Transforming Forensics programme to establish the Forensics Capability Network (FCN) - which is the UK's largest forensic science network and supports around 4,000 forensic specialists. It has also helped to shape the Digital Forensics Science Strategy, with the examination of digital evidence increasingly important for policing.

Police Workforce

The Workforce Portfolio has led work with PCCs and partners to deliver an affordable and credible pay awards for both police officers and the police staff in the 2019-20 round.

This year, the portfolio has been supporting PCCs in the effective governance and delivery of the Operation Uplift programme to recruit 20,000 additional officers by 2023 and ensuring that diversity and improved workforce representation remains at the heart of the programme (for example, by working with partners on the development of more inclusive assessment and recruitment processes).

Local Policing and Partnerships

A key priority has been to raise the profile of road safety amongst PCCs and make the case to Ministers and others on the need for further support, and on the role of PCCs in reducing death and injury on the road. This included a 'deep dive' session for PCCs on road safety attended by the Road Safety minister.

It has also continued to raise the profile of Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and to make the case for them to be given a more significant role in - and support to - coordinating action to improve community safety and prevention at local level. It has sought to ensure that the ASB Community Trigger is better known and operates effectively.

Equality, Diversity and Human Rights (EDHR)

This portfolio has facilitated PCCs involvement in improving workforce diversity. We have worked with the NPCC and the CoP to deliver a conference on workforce diversity for PCCs and Chief Constables. PCCs have been plugged into the national programme board of Operation Uplift and have continued to stress the need for the Uplift Programme to be used as an opportunity to improve workforce diversity.

Our EDHR portfolio has also ensured that PCCs are playing a leading role in national initiatives to address hate crime and to tackle issues of racial disparity in the use of police powers - for example, we worked with the NPCC to deliver a successful conference on addressing community concerns about disproportionality in the use of stop and search powers.

The APCC is building on the work of the EDHR portfolio to develop a cross-portfolio working group to help PCCs and partners address the important issues coming out of the Black Lives Matter movement.





Prevention

This year the APCC established a new Prevention portfolio, focused on supporting PCCs by developing and disseminating the best evidence on 'what works' for crime prevention - early work has focused on engaging with the latest research and practice development including involving the College of Policing and Youth Endowment Fund in meetings of the new portfolio group.

An early win for the new portfolio has been its work with the Home Office on the Safer Streets Fund and supporting PCCs to apply successfully for funding. Through this fund over 33 police force areas have benefited from a £25 million scheme to cut burglary, theft, and other neighbourhood crime.

Performance

The APCC engaged with HMICFRS to influence and shape their inspection proposals and national monitoring framework. We continue work with HMICFRS to improve force management statements (FMS) (ensuring FMS reflecting the strategic PCC role locally), and influence the online inspection response tool, to ensure it aligns to PCC views. The portfolio is also working to help shape and develop the new National Policing Board's Police Outcomes Framework to ensure it is outcome-based and reflects the views and priorities of PCCs.

Digital Policing Portfolio

The Digital Policing Portfolio works with PCCs, police forces and other key partners to support the development and delivery of new digital services for Policing.

The APCC worked with the NPCC to produce a new ten-year **digital strategy** for policing, which we launched at our Joint Summit.

It continues to ensure that PCCs have effective representation in the governance for digital and technology programmes, and can provide effective oversight and challenge on costs, benefits, and value for money, on behalf of PCCs, for policing and the public.





Mental Health

This portfolio ensured a strong PCC voice on Sir Simon Wessely's review of the Mental Health Act, which looked at rising rates of detention under the Act, including the disproportionate detention of people from BAME groups. As a result of the review, the Government committed to developing a new Mental Health Bill and the portfolio lead was invited to join a national forum to inform this work.

Alcohol and Substance Misuse

The portfolio lead is a member of the Government's Drugs Board, which is chaired by the Home Secretary, and provided PCC representation on Professor Dame Carol Black's review of drug policy, which focused on the ways in which drugs are fuelling serious violence and on treatment, recovery and prevention. Working with Home Office officials we also co-ordinated a one-day forum for PCCs to engage with the Policing Minister on issues including innovative approaches to alcohol-related crime and tackling county lines drug markets. The portfolio continues to engage with a wider range of stakeholders to give PCCs a national voice on drug and alcohol policy.



Brexit

The Brexit Working Group continues to support PCCs to ensure that they are able to engage proactively with Ministers and policing partners to get the best possible outcomes for policing and the public throughout the UK's departure from the European Union. The cross-party group provides representation for PCCs on the International Crime Coordination Centre Steering Group. A key area of activity included meeting with the Home Secretary in 2019 on behalf of PCCs to discuss contingency planning arrangements for EU law enforcement tools and mechanisms. The portfolio has also hosted several Deep Dives and workshops for PCCs and OPCCs on Brexit, as well as holding a main plenary event at the 2019 Policing Summit. Whilst work continues as the UK's transition period ends on 31 December, the three PCCs continue to engage with the International Crime Coordination Centre, NPCC, NCA and Home Office in their commitment to ensure PCCs are best placed.



Finance and Corporate Governance

The APCC's financial position:

The APCC's audited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2020 are available here:

<https://www.apccs.police.uk/media/5586/audited-accounts-march-2019-to-march-2020.pdf>

Directors of the Association:

Katy Bourne OBE - Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex (Chair)

Mark Burns-Williamson OBE - Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire

Simon Duckworth OBE - DL Member of the City of London Police Committee

Arfon Jones - Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales

Julia Mulligan - Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire

Martin Surl - Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire

Paddy Tipping - Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire

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2019/20 Year Review and Looking Ahead to 2020/21

