

GWENT POLICE AUTHORITY
Corporate Planning & Performance Committee

Date: 4th September 2008 **Item No:** 7a

Heading: An outline of the proposals in the Home Office Green Paper and Gwent Police Authority's draft response.

Report Author: Chief Executive

SUMMARY

To outline to members the key proposals in the Home Office Green Paper 'From The Neighbourhood To The National: Policing Our Communities Together' (July 2008) and the implications for Police Authorities (PAs). To advise of the proposed Gwent Police Authority response with a view to discussion and member input to the final document.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the report and feedback comments as appropriate.

BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Green Paper 'From The Neighbourhood To The National: Policing Our Communities Together' (July 2008) considers proposals to reform the police service. The document is primarily based on two policing reviews published in 2008:
 - Review of Policing by HMCIC Sir Ronnie Flannigan
 - 'Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime' by Louise Casey
- 1.2 The paper is primarily about professionalizing the Police Service and improving local accountability to our communities.

PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE

- 2.1 For members to consider and add comments or request amendments where appropriate to Gwent Police Authority's (GPA) response to the Green Paper on policing reforms and agree to forward the ratified response to the Home Office.

- 2.2 The draft response (attached as Annex 1) includes a brief synopsis of each of the seven chapters, identifying key proposals. The relevant consultation questions and answer are at the end of each chapter.

STAFFING / PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

3. There are no additional staffing implications in relation to the requirements of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4. There are no financial implications to the production of this report. For the financial implications to the proposals in the Green Paper, please refer to Annex 1.

CONSULTATION

5. There has been consultation, on the Green Paper, with a number of agencies including APA, all four Welsh Police Authorities, All Wales Collaboration Team and WLGA. Their views have been fed into the draft response.

PROJECT ASSESSMENT FOR EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY MATTERS

6. This proposal has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Police Authority's Equality Schemes, and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.

RISK ASSESSMENT

7. There are no specific risks associated with the contents of this report.

STAYING AHEAD (2011 REVIEW)

8. The 2011 review will have to bear cognisance to the resulting White Paper and the relevant legislative requirements.

CONCLUSION

9. The attached response to the Green Paper 'From The Neighbourhood To The National: Policing Our Communities Together' (July 2008) is a collaborative response that is fairly comprehensive. The draft response has been forwarded to APA as they requested on 22nd August 2008. Members have the opportunity to discuss the proposals and draft response and to request amendments from a GPA perspective. Otherwise, Members are asked for their approval for the final response to be sent to the Home Office by 10th October 2008.

LEAD OFFICER

10. Maria Chapman, Executive Support Officer, Police Authority Wales.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

11. Sir Ronnie Flannigan, The Review of Policing: Final Report, Home Office 2008
Louise Casey, Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime, Cabinet Office 2008
HMIC Thematic Report: Leading From the Frontline, 2008
Police Federation: The Office of Constable: The Bedrock of Modern Day British Policing, 2008
NPIA: Leading Policing – A Strategy for 21st Century Policing, 2008
HMIC Thematic Report: Closing the Gap, 2005
NPIA Review of Police Community Support Officers,
HO (DCA) & Attorney General Office: Delivering Simple Speedy, Summary Justice, 2006
HO: Police Workforce Modernisation: Impact Assessment of changes to workforce mix, 2006
HO, APA, ACPO: Efficiency and Productivity Strategy for the Police Service, 2008
Cabinet Office: Security in Global Hub: Establishing the UKs new Border Arrangements, 2007

ANNEXES

12. Gwent Police Authority response to the HO Green Paper 'From The Neighbourhood To The National: Policing Our Communities Together' (July 2008).