

# Regional Citizens Focus and Partnership Meeting and National Meeting

## Report by Richard Hobbs

I attended the above regional meeting which is primarily discuss and forward the regional views to the Chairman Robin Durham I have forwarded the full minutes to Katie Baker for reference, see highlights below.

### Violence against women strategy

The APA would respond to a government consultation suggesting that the strategy should also refer to perpetrators, children and partnership working.

### Crime mapping national guidelines

Concerns were raised about the Safer Streets Website and the effect on local communities and properties which would be forwarded to the Home Office

### Overview and scrutiny Regulations

The APA was disappointed that the final regulations did not include the co-option of police authorities as of right to the committees. The guidance does include clear guidance about the engagement of police authorities in the overview and scrutiny process, however there may still be opportunities to include the co-option of police authorities through an amendment to primary legislation, or through an amendment to the regulations in the autumn.

- Members were concerned the police authorities would find it difficult to be represented at district level.

### Improving Public Confidence

Warwickshire as applied to join a work programme with APA to match fund a number of focus groups to explore issues relating to public confidence Costs and methodology were discussed and it was note that there would be a national conference on 9<sup>th</sup> September

Key areas of work APA currently engaged in

1. Guidance and toolkit in relation to public confidence
2. To run public consultation with hard to reach groups- need to engage with a diverse range of groups to get a broader perspective
3. Match funding with police authorities on running consultations, Mori commissioned to carry this out, will provide some steer on how police authorities can engage with these groups in driving up confidence

The requirements for local surveys were discussed with guidance insisting on a uniform approach which I felt was far too prescriptive

## **Local Criminal Justice Boards**

Discussion on the representation of Police Authorities on the LCJB's was discussed with the following resolution

**Agreed:** The Network strongly agreed police authorities should be represented on LCJBs, the determination of whether an officer or member attends is up to the individual PA. Peter Thompson will be taking points across to the next NCJB.

## **Child Protection**

The implications for Police Authorities with relation to representation on and relationship with Children's trusts was discussed

## **Prevent Update**

We received an update and the following comments were made

- Consensus on some areas and divergence on others overall, eg the role around community engagement in relation to prevent
  - When updating Strategy, will need to have consideration of local risks & needs to provide a broad framework for police authorities
  - Governance framework is a clear concern for police authorities- the need for consistency
  - In relation to strategic prevent partnerships, police authorities to consider whether there should be a direct role
  - Issues around vetting to be considered and to be included in the strategy
  - Police authorities to identify gaps, to coordinate prevent agenda with key partners
- It was noted that the APA will host a joint seminar with GMPA where members and officers will be given the opportunity to come together to discuss issues informally.

**Richard Hobbs**