

Association of Police Authorities - Position Statement

Issue	The APA supports...	The APA opposes...
Police accountability	Strong, transparent and robust local accountability structures which reflect the breadth and diversity of local communities and which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the trust and confidence of all local communities • Give all local communities the opportunity to exercise meaningful, ongoing influence over policing 	Policing that is subject to overt political control or the whims of one interest group or party
Police funding	Allocation of funding based on need Flexibility to spend available resources in a way which best meets local policing needs. Taking account of how much local people say they want to pay for their policing locally through police council tax Robust local accountability to ensure that policing delivers both public protection and value for money	Performance related funding Ring-fenced funding streams which dictate how the policing grant can be spent Capping and central control of local police council tax which disregards what communities say they are prepared to pay for policing locally Unnecessary restrictions on use of police funding leading to police officers carrying out administrative roles instead of frontline operational duties
Police bureaucracy	Reducing unnecessary bureaucracy which hampers the work of the police Appropriate safeguards which protect civil liberties and human rights or which are needed to secure the trust and confidence of all communities in policing.	Unnecessary paperwork which keeps police officers away from frontline operational duties Collecting data about people for no good reason.
Police numbers	Making the most effective and efficient use of the whole workforce to deliver high quality local policing services.	Political focus on the numbers of police officers and police community support officers rather than the most efficient and effective ways of protecting the public A fixation on police numbers which does not accurately reflect the complex nature of modern policing

Association of Police Authorities - Position Statement (cont)

Issue	The APA supports...	The APA opposes...
Police numbers (cont)	<p>A modern, well trained and well equipped police service which values the contribution made by all those in the police workforce</p> <p>Increasing regional or national procurement of standardised items of police equipment.</p>	<p>Archaic, rigid working structures which are not effective and efficient for the demands of modern policing</p>
Police structures	<p>Increasing collaboration between forces and authorities to deliver more efficient and effective policing</p> <p>Effective structures which support both local and national policing imperatives.</p> <p>Voluntary, locally-driven amalgamations of forces and authorities in the interests of greater efficiency and effectiveness.</p>	<p>Mergers and amalgamations of police forces and authorities which lack local support</p> <p>Mergers and amalgamations of police forces and authorities which lack clear evidence of how they will result in significantly more efficient or effective policing</p>
Chief officer pay	<p>Openness and transparency for the public regarding the pay of senior police officers</p>	<p>Incentives such as 'Golden Hellos' paid to senior officers which distort the appointments process</p>
Police complaints	<p>Making it easier for people to seek an easy solution when they are dissatisfied with the service they receive</p>	<p>Bureaucratic complaints processes for minor issues</p>
Chief Constable Appointments	<p>Locally accountable freedom to appoint Chief Constables from an open list of candidates</p>	<p>Selection of Chief Constables from a Home Office imposed list of candidates</p>
Protective Services and Counter Terrorism	<p>Accountable Policing which benefits from the understanding, trust and involvement of the public</p> <p>Appropriate information sharing. Transparent and publically-accountable use of Counter Terrorism and other police powers.</p> <p>A 'Golden thread' involving public vigilance and local intelligence with the national and international fight against serious crimes</p>	<p>National or regional control of 'Protective services' policing (serious and cross border crime) without public accountability and effective links with local constabularies.</p>
Governance of policing	<p>Cost effective governance of policing. (Police authorities currently cost less than 34% of the total police spend)</p>	<p>Over bureaucratic and expensive governance systems.</p>