

THE DIGEST

July 2010



BURY HQ OPENS

GMPA delivers another new police building



ON THE HORIZON

With the new Government comes a whole new raft of legislation, much of which will have implications for police authorities. Here The Digest takes a look at some of the legislation headed GMPA's way.

The new Coalition Government has outlined over 20 bills which will form its legislative programme over an 18-month Parliamentary session due to end in autumn 2011. There are implications for policing in a number of the bills and the most significant from a police authority perspective is The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill which proposes to introduce directly elected individuals to hold the police to account. When the Bill was first announced the Association of Police Authorities was extremely vocal in its opposition to the notion and APA Chairman Rob Garnham wrote letters to the media highlighting the concerns. Amongst them is the fear that directly elected individuals will bring politics into policing however GMPA Executive Director Russell Bernstein said the APA may have been premature in its defence. Russell said: "At this stage, we don't know the detail of the proposals in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill. We don't know how any new system would work, how it would be administered and

how it will impact on current arrangements. Until we know all this information I don't think it's helpful to immediately disregard the proposals. It's understandable that there's a nervousness within agencies such as the APA and I've no doubt staff within our own organisation are wondering and maybe even worrying about the headlines that have been in the media in recent weeks. Although I obviously can't say here at GMPA we won't be affected by any changes which may be headed our way, what I can say is that at no time to date have any of the discussions at a national or local level mentioned changing the support systems which underpin police authorities, i.e. staffing structures. I can assure staff, GMPA management is closely monitoring the debates at a national level and if at anytime I believe there is cause for serious concern, I will of course keep everyone fully informed." A number of the bills in the Queen's Speech have implications for policing and therefore police authorities. In addition, there are bills which relate to local authorities

(councils) which are also likely to impact on police authorities. Here is some information on the expected content of the Bills of most significance.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill

This Bill is intended to make the police more accountable to local people and create a new dedicated Border Police Force. Also included are a series of proposed measures to tackle alcohol-related violence and disorder. Once published, key provisions are expected to include:

- Introduction of directly elected individuals to hold the police to account. They would ensure that local policing activities meet the needs of the local community, help build confidence in the system and bring communities and the police together.
- Amendments to health and safety laws to ensure such legislation will not stand in the way of "common sense" policing.
- A new dedicated Border Police Force, as part of a refocused Serious

Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), in order to enhance national security, improve immigration controls, and crack down on the trafficking of people, weapons and drugs.

- Strengthened relations to deal with serious crime and extended collaboration between Forces to deliver better value for money.
- Require hospitals to share non-confidential information with the police so they know where gun and knife crime is happening and can target stop-and-search in gun and knife crime hot spots.
- Giving people greater legal protection to prevent crime and apprehend criminals including ensuring that people have the protection that they need when they defend themselves against intruders.
- An overhaul of the Licensing Act 2003 to give Local Authorities and the police much stronger powers to remove licenses from, or refuse to grant licenses to, any premises that are causing problems. This will include:
 - Banning the sale of alcohol below cost price.
 - Allowing local councils to charge more for late-night licenses to pay for additional policing; and giving them and the police further powers to permanently shut down shops or bars persistently selling to children.
 - Doubling the maximum fine for selling alcohol to children to £20,000.

The Freedom (Great Repeal) Bill

This Bill is intended to address concerns resulting from a “tidal wave” of criminal justice legislation implemented over recent years, so that freedoms and civil liberties can be restored and “unnecessary” criminal laws repealed.

“GMPA IS CLOSELY

MONITORING TALKS

AT NATIONAL LEVEL”

receiving public funding in the light of lessons learned so far from the operation of the Freedom of Information (FoI) Act 2000. Provisions are likely to include:

- Extension of the scope of the FoI Act 2000 to provide greater transparency.
- Protection of historic freedoms through the defence of trial by jury.
- Reform of libel laws to protect freedom of speech.
- Repeal of unnecessary criminal offences.
- Restricting the scope of the DNA database and giving added protection to innocent people whose samples have been stored.
- The restoration of rights to peaceful, non-violent protest so that the public can do so without fear of being criminalised.
- Introducing safeguards against the misuse of anti-terrorism legislation, whilst striking the balance between public protection, social cohesion and protecting civil liberties.
- Regulation of the use of CCTV intended to protect privacy.

- Ending of storage of internet and email records without good reason to do so.

Existing legislation which comes under the scope of this bill, such as the Data Protection Act 1998, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000, Public Order Act 1986, Crime and Security Act 2010 and terrorism legislation is also subject to further review, which is likely to involve input from the public.

The Terrorist Asset Freezing Bill

This Bill is intended to permanently replace the Terrorist Asset-Freezing (Temporary Provisions) Act 2010 which came into force last February. Following a Supreme Court decision earlier this year quashing secondary legislation previously used to implement terrorist asset freezes, Parliament passed the temporary legislation to maintain the UK’s terrorist asset freezing regime. This legislation expires on 31 December 2010. The replacement bill would put the UK’s terrorist asset freezing regime on a secure legislative footing by setting out the framework for effectively implementing asset freezing in the UK, as required by the United Nations.

The Public Bodies (Reform) Bill

This Bill aims to ensure that in future there will be a greater degree of transparency and accountability for all public bodies including non-departmental public bodies (‘Quangos’).

NEW HQ WORKS SCHEDULE TOPPED

BY LEE EMERY

A TOPPING out ceremony has been held to mark the completion of the highest point of the new GMP Force Headquarters in Central Park. Officials from the Force and partner agencies gathered on the rooftop of the new building at Central Park in Newton Heath, north east Manchester to watch the Vice Chair of Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA) Gloria Oates and Chief Constable Peter Fahy secure a golden bolt and sign the final piece of steel. Mrs Oates said: "I'm delighted this project is continuing to develop at such an impressive rate. The current HQ is out-of-date, exhausted and expensive to keep together. This new building will be more



efficient. It will allow better team working and flexibility and will enable more effort to be put into front line policing. I have every confidence these benefits will be felt across all our communities." Mr Fahy added: "We are working to ensure we provide the best and most efficient service for the people of Greater Manchester. This modern, fit-for-purpose HQ will

encourage team working and improve communication to enable us to work more efficiently and get the most value from our tightening budget so we can in turn spend more on frontline policing. It's great to see the future taking shape before my eyes." Building contractors, Carillion, placed the traditional evergreen yew branch on the structure to symbolise growth and

to bring good luck. The £64m 240,000 sq ft Force HQ, designed by Aedas, will be a highly sophisticated office building, with the highest rating of environmental efficiency grading. Coloured glass and a Portland stone look will be key features of the six-storey building which will be visible from Piccadilly and glow blue at night. The new development replaces the Force's current headquarters Chester House and will help ensure GMP is able to meet the challenges of policing the Greater Manchester area in the coming years. Staff and officers are expected to be working from the new HQ towards the end of 2011. ■

Photograph taken and supplied by GMP Imaging

New Bury police station opens its doors

THE new £16m Bury Police Divisional HQ is now open for business. Situated on Dunster Road, less than 300 yards from the birthplace of the founder of the modern police service Sir Robert Peel, the building which was funded by GMPA is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. An official opening



ceremony marked the building launch

on June 28 (see front page for image).

Currency Converter

The £20 banknote featuring the portrait of composer Sir Edward Elgar was withdrawn from circulation on June 30 this year. The note has been gradually replaced by the Adam Smith £20 which was introduced in 2007. After June 30, the Elgar note will no longer have 'legal tender' status.

MONEY MATTERS

Budget cuts have been announced on a regular basis since the coalition Government came into power. Within weeks of the election results, the Police Authority discovered the GMP budget was being slashed by almost £7m during this financial year alone. More cuts are expected later this year when the Comprehensive Spending Review is announced but despite the bleak outlook, the GMPA is confident that efficiency saving programmes can be accelerated so that savings are made and all policing needs are met. Speaking shortly after the first round of police cuts in May, Cllr Paul Murphy said: "Everyone in the police service is feeling the impact of the budget cuts and some tough decisions need to be made here in GMP to ensure all communities continue to receive the high standard police service they deserve. We cannot rule anything out however we will make every effort to ensure the frontline will not be affected. We are reviewing all aspects of policing in order to make savings at every opportunity."

Why a new HQ?

Chester House is being replaced because:

- It's not fit-for-purpose or cost effective to maintain
- GMP needs a modern, fit-for-purpose HQ to deliver an improved police service
- GMP needs a building designed with future growth in mind.



IAG review reports back

GMPA's three strategic Independent Advisory Groups will be discontinued and new structures and processes will be developed to replace them. The decision was made by the Authority's Citizen Focus and Communications Committee after an independent review of the IAGs showed they do not have a clear purpose in their current form. The review commissioned by GMPA and conducted by Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisations



(GMCVO) also concluded that the membership of the groups is not developed to meet the purpose of IAGs nor are the groups adequately linked to the GMPA governance structure. Work is currently taking place to respond to the review outcomes and both GMP and previous IAG members are

being consulted as part of the work. To date, it has been decided that a GMPA Confidence and Equalities Board will be established to act as the governance mechanism for monitoring and oversight of strategic issues relating to equality, diversity and human rights. An update in relation to the progress of establishing the Board will be reported to the next Citizen Focus and Communications Committee in September 2010.
By Donna Bell

Volunteer visits impress

GMPA Appropriate Adults have attended more than 12,000 call outs since the scheme began in 2005. Records of AA2 forms, which are completed each time an AA responds to a call for support, show that on April 21 this year, the 12,000th form was inputted into the

system. GMPA staff member Lisa Hindle, Volunteer Schemes Development Officer said: "The staff who work in the Volunteers Team know how busy our AAs are but I think even we were surprised to learn that the actual amount is into the tens of thousands. It's

testament to all our AAs' hard work and I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped reach the impressive number." Do you know anyone who may be interested in becoming a GMPA volunteer? Direct them to the GMPA website where they can find out more.

NEW ACC FOR GMP

A FORMULA One fan has joined GMP's chief officer team. Dawn Copley, currently a Chief Superintendent in Lancashire Constabulary, was appointed by GMPA on Monday June 7 following an intensive interview process. She said: "I joined the



police because I was really interested in serving the public in a dynamic environment. "I am really passionate about delivering the highest quality of service to the public across everything we do. That is something that has lived throughout my career and was behind my decision to join GMP as it deals with a great range of complex issues and is committed to serving the public. I have spoken to many people and have been struck by how supportive they are about the work that GMP officers do on their behalf in communities."

Fond farewell

LONG-SERVING GMPA staff member Paul Leeming celebrated his retirement along with GMP ACCs Ian Seabridge and Rob Taylor recently at a farewell meal at The Lowry in Salford.



A new term with new members

THE Authority's AGM in June saw Chairman Cllr Paul Murphy and vice-chair Gloria Oates voted in for another year. This year they are joined by five new Members who join GMPA following the recent local elections. The new Members are Cllr Joe Kitchen from Tameside, Cllr Dave Goddard from Stockport, Cllr Pat Colclough from Rochdale. Other new members Cllr Sam Cohen from Bury and Cllr Bernard Sharp

from Trafford have both been GMPA Members before. The new recruits replace Cllr Warren Bray, Cllr



Cllr Paul Murphy at the recent AGM

Susan Williams, Cllr Paul Porgess, Cllr Barbara Todd and Cllr

Roy Walker. The AGM is attended by both GMPA and GMP officials and the main business on the agenda is the election of the chairman and vice-chair, committee membership and reviews of important documents such as Standing Orders. The cycle of meetings is also agreed and these can be accessed by members of the public and staff alike on the GMPA website in the committee papers section.

A BIOGRAPHY - Dawn Copley

Dawn Copley is a Chief Superintendent in Lancashire Constabulary. She has 23 years' police service, all within Lancashire, where she has had extensive experience across a range of uniform, detective and corporate roles. Over the last five years she has been the Operations Manager at Southern Division, responsible for all operational

policing there, the Divisional Commander of the Specialist Operations Division based at HQ, and the Head of Sustaining Excellence which is the Constabulary's Organisational Change Programme. Dawn has a Master of Science Degree in Police Leadership and Management from the University of Leicester. She has also recently successfully completed

the Strategic Command Course at the National College of Police Leadership, Bramshill. Dawn is married to a serving police officer. Her hobbies include travel and Formula 1. ■ GMP'S Janette McCormick who has been on secondment to GMPA has secured an ACC position with Cheshire Constabulary. Janette leaves GMP in July.

Politics Update: All change at No. 10

The General Election resulted in major changes at No. 10. Here [The Digest](#) takes a closer look at some of the new policing key players.

The Cabinet's MPs are now a mixture of Conservatives and Liberal Democrats. The new Home Secretary (Theresa May) and the Policing Minister (Nick Herbert) are amongst the most influential people in policing. Here [The Digest](#) provides a snapshot of their professional backgrounds.

Theresa May

Theresa started her career at the Bank of England and went on to hold posts at the Association for Payment Clearing Services (APACS) as Head of the European Affairs Unit from 1989-1996, and Senior Adviser on International Affairs between 1996-97. Theresa has been involved in politics at all levels for many years, starting out stuffing envelopes at her local Conservative Association before going on to be a councillor in the London Borough of Merton from 1986 to 1994. During that time Theresa was Chairman of Education between 1988 and 1990 and Deputy Group Leader and Housing Spokesman between



1992 and 1994.

Theresa was elected Member of Parliament for Maidenhead in May 1997. Theresa has held several positions within Parliament since 1997. She was a member of the Shadow Cabinet from 1999 to 2010, including as Shadow Secretary of State for Education and Employment, Shadow Secretary of State for Work & Pensions, and Shadow Leader of the House of Commons. From 2002 to 2003 she was the first female Chairman of the Conservative Party. After the general election in May 2010 she was appointed Home Secretary and Minister for Women & Equality.

Nick Herbert

Nick Herbert was elected MP for Arundel

& South Downs in May 2005. Prior to being appointed Minister of State for Justice (jointly with the Home Office) he has held positions of Shadow Minister for Police Reform, Shadow Secretary of State for Justice and most recently Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Prior to his election as an MP Nick was the Director of Reform, the independent think tank which he co-founded in 2002. He was Chief Executive of Business for Sterling from 1998 to 2000. He takes an active interest in rural communities and international aid for health issues (tuberculosis). He read Law and Land Economy at Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Fact File

Prime Minister
The Rt Hon David Cameron MP.
Deputy Prime Minister
The Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP.
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
The Rt Hon William Hague MP.
Chancellor of the Exchequer
George Osborne MP.
Secretary of State for Defence
Dr Liam Fox MP.
Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice
Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke.
Chief Whip
The Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP.
Secretary of State for the Home Department and Minister for Women and Equality
Theresa May MP.
Secretary of State for Health
Andrew Lansley CBE MP.
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
David Laws MP.
Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills
Dr Vince Cable MP.
Secretary of State for Education
Michael Gove MP.

News in brief

Congratulations and the best of luck to Mel Moores who headed off on maternity leave on Thursday June 10. Mel's new arrival – a girl - is due on July 8. No names decided as yet but Mel has promised to bring the new arrival into the office – obviously, after she's been born!

Caroline Phillips from the Volunteers Team and Pat Taylor, an admin assistant, said goodbye to GMPA recently. Both ladies have secured positions within different parts of Salford City Council. The best of luck to them both.

Three new starters in recent weeks - Janet Wood, a strategic support officer, and Engagement Team new recruits Dan Foster and Gaynor Edwards. Gaynor joins the Authority on July 12 and she made her debut at the recent Away Day.

GMPA's assistant director of Finance Roger Bell has taken early retirement. Roger is replaced by Bob McIntyre.

Congratulations to Amy Shepherd who tied the knot in June. Amy is now Mrs Davies.

And the winner is

Nikki Park was this year's winner of GMPA's Employee of the Year Award, part of Salford City Council's annual Sparkle Awards. The nominees were Danielle Whitworth, Jenna Lancaster, Amy Shepherd and Nikki. Cllr Paul Murphy and Chief Constable Peter Fahy judged the category.



No more missed mobile calls

We all know what its like. Your work mobile rings 4 times and diverts to voicemail before you even had chance to dig it out of your bag. You have probably looked on your Nokia, XDA or Blackberry handset and found no option in the menu to extend the ring time before this divert to kicks in. Well, help is at hand. I have discovered a code that will allow you to set your own time. All you need to do is follow these simple steps.

- From your main screen enter the

following code (as if you were dialling a number to call):
**61*901*11*30#



- The last figure is the length of time you want it to ring before diverting to voicemail. You can choose any number from 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 seconds.
- Press dial
- You will get a

message saying 'call divert successful' or something similar to that.

- Hang up, you're done. Your phone will now ring for the time you specified before diverting to voice mail.
- You can change this setting at any point using the same method.

Remember, this code will only work on phones on the O2 contract, which all GMPA work handsets are. **By David Byrne**

Equalities Act 2010 explained

The Equality Act passed in April this year brings together all the existing strands of equality and discrimination legislation. It aims to clarify existing law, extending it to cover some inconsistencies in existing law and

to create a stronger set of protected characteristics and duties on public bodies to promote equality including a new duty to reducing socio-economic inequality. GMPA Strategic Support Officer Karen Edwards has produced

a summary of the Act and its implications. It will be emailed to staff in July. If you are not staff but would like a copy contact Donna Bell on 0161 793 3092. *Please note, the new Government may make changes to some of the equality proposals in the coming months.