



GMPA BRIEFING

Welcome from the chairman

Welcome to the first edition of GMPA Briefing, an informal, chatty newsletter produced on a regular basis to keep you up-to-speed with some of the work taking place at Greater Manchester Police Authority. I hope you find GMPA Briefing useful and encourage you to get in touch if you have ideas about how to improve future editions.

GMPA Chairman Cllr Paul Murphy



NEW HQ ON ITS WAY

Work is underway at the site of the new GMP HQ in Central Park, North East Manchester. The project was approved by the Police Authority in June 2009 following many months of detailed research and planning.



The reason we need to find a new home for Greater Manchester Police's HQ is simple – the current HQ is not fit-for-purpose as a police building. It does not support modern day policing and the cost of refurbishment means this is not an option. We hope to open the doors of the new six-storey HQ in early 2011 and between now and then we'll be working closely with the force to ensure every aspect of the relocation is a success. We've got a head start in this respect. We've opened more than

19 new police buildings in recent years so we've got a good idea of the best way to handle things. The new HQ, which has been part-funded by the Home Office, will boast state-of-the-art facilities and will be home to our Counter Terrorism Unit. I'll keep you posted on project progress as the building work develops.

Protecting People

The inaugural meeting of the Public Protection Commission (PPC) Leadership Group was held recently. The Commission is one of seven set up within the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) to ensure the Multi-Area Agreement for the Greater Manchester region is delivered effectively.

I sit on the group as chair of the local police authority along with the chair of the fire authority, five elected members from different Greater Manchester districts, the Chief Executives of Salford and Wigan councils, the Chief Constable and the Chief Fire Officer. The inaugural meeting provided us with an opportunity to agree the priorities and set the direction of the PPC's work programme over

the next 12 months. After much discussion, the Leadership Group agreed three thematic areas of work to concentrate on:

- Improvements and efficiencies through collaboration
- Achieving excellence in crime and disorder with a proposed focus on serious acquisitive crime (domestic burglary) and domestic abuse
- Counter terrorism and civil contingency/emergency plan

Work is now taking place to explore these themes in more detail to establish what needs to be done. The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) is leading on this work and the leadership group expects to receive clear action plans at our next meeting in September.



to share good practice within authorities. We also discussed the key responsibilities of police authorities and highlighted issues of concern. This information will assist the APA in the development of a minimum standard framework for all police authorities. This in turn will help police authorities check they are contributing to the PREVENT agenda.

We also took the opportunity to showcase some of the excellent work we are doing under the PREVENT agenda.

COUNTER TERRORISM TALK

On July 6 we teamed up with the APA to host a seminar based on the PREVENT agenda at the Palace Hotel, Manchester, and I'm delighted to say it was a great success.

The purpose of the seminar was to discuss the findings from the recent APA survey and

Our "Changing Faces" young people's project presented their journey so far and introduced the educational resources they've been developing over the last few months. The group and its work were well received by the other police authorities, which was a credit to the young people involved.

SUCCESS THROUGH SCRUTINY

GMPA is committed to making sure GMP performance is first-class and ever-improving.



For this reason myself, my deputy Gloria Oates, an Independent Member of GMPA, and Russell Bernstein, the Authority's Executive Director, meet with the Chief Constable Peter Fahy on a monthly basis to discuss anything and everything performance related. This close contact means GMPA always has its finger on the performance pulse. This is vital if we are to quickly identify and address performance issues before they become a major problem.

In addition, we scrutinise force performance at full Police Authority meetings and issues are referred to the Scrutiny Committee for more detailed consideration. Furthermore, thematic as well as divisional scrutiny also takes place.

Policing Seminar

Chief Constable Peter Fahy and I attended the Policing Seminar July 13. It had been called by the Home Secretary and all police authority chairs and force Chief Constables had been invited to attend.

The theme of the seminar was "Delivering Reform: Driving Progress Together," and was divided into five key sessions:

- Policing Pledge and Confidence
- Managing Performance
- Reducing Bureaucracy
- Serious Organised Crime and Protective Services
- Value for Money

One of the key messages coming out of the seminar was that there was still an opportunity to influence the Policing and Crime Bill. I'll be receiving any suggestions which come forward and I've no doubt some really constructive feedback will come my way.

Policing White Paper

The Government has promised a White Paper to be published in the autumn. The contents are not yet known but there'll be three central issues - counter terrorism & organised crime; responding to communities and value for money/efficiency. There'll also be four key themes – localism, visibility, partnership and delivery. GMPA will be keeping a close eye on the White Paper plans to ensure any implications for us and our partners are recognised and responded to.



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ACPO/APA Conference



I was delighted to see the ACPO/APA conference once again taking place in Manchester on July 7, 8 and 9. GMP Chief Constable Peter Fahy and I had the great

pleasure of welcoming everyone to the event and, on the second day, I chaired a session relating to protective services titled "The New Strategic Framework" which featured presentations from Tim Brain, Chief Constable, Gloucestershire Constabulary and Stephen Rimmer, Director of the Home Office's General Crime and Policing Group. Both Tim and Stephen had some really interesting things to say and I thoroughly enjoyed the session. The breakout events which followed were also invaluable in terms of information and advice under their respective headings which were: Policing Under Protest - Interim findings of HMIC's review of policing public protests; The New White Paper - An introduction; National Solutions - The joining up of Authority/Force assets; International Policing.

IT'S GOOD TO TALK

This newsletter has been produced to assist in the Authority's partnership working. There's a plethora of people working hard all across Greater Manchester to make it a better place and, if we work together, the more successful we will be. I hope by providing you with regular updates about some of GMPA's work, you'll be able to see if there's anything you can get involved in or if there's anything you're doing which we may be interested in. Either way, if you want to get in touch, please pick up the phone and call us on 0161 793 3127 or drop us a line at info@gmpa.gov.uk