

**SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT
CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP**

REPORT TO: South Cambs CDRP Board
AUTHOR/S: Philip Aldis

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POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

1 Purpose

For CDRP Board members to note the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners from May 2012.

2 Background

- 2.1 At the start of 2011, the Home Secretary outlined changes to the approach to addressing crime in the Home Office document "A New Approach to Fighting Crime".
- 2.2 As well as making clear that the Home Office has now set the Police "one clear target: to cut crime", the document lays out plans to increase local accountability. The government seeks to do this by replacing "bureaucratic accountability", "targets and "performance management" with "local democratic accountability".
- 2.3 Specifically this entails the election of Police and Crime Commissioners and mandatory local beat meetings. Police and Crime Commissioners will be introduced from May 2012.
- 2.4 Details of how commissioners will be elected are still to be confirmed, as is how the scheme will operate in Cambridgeshire. However it has been confirmed that from May 2012 Police and Crime Commissioners will have responsibility for setting the Police and crime plan, as well as being able to appoint – and dismiss if necessary - Chief Constables. From April 2013, they will have responsibilities for setting and allocating budgets.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 CDRP Board members are recommended to read the attached Home Office document "Police & Crime Commissioners" so that they have an understanding of the proposals.
- 3.2 CDRP Board members may also wish to read the Home Office document "A New Approach to Fighting Crime" to give themselves some further understanding of the proposed government changes to dealing with crime. Copies can be requested from Bridget Fairley, CDRP Partnership Support Officer.