

**Update to Issues from 2008/9 Annual Governance Statement  
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1. The Authority should strengthen its scrutiny of the performance of Sussex Police through a new governance framework;

**Update**

The governance structure for the Authority was reviewed in April 2009 and the new governance structure implemented with effect from 30 July 2009. The new structure introduces three new scrutiny committees which are aligned with the Force strategic pillars. These are the Protective Services Scrutiny Committee, the Neighbourhood Policing Scrutiny Committee, and the Resources Scrutiny Committee.

2. A review and amendment of the Police Authority handbook, including a statement of the roles and responsibilities of authority members should take place;

**Update**

The Authority handbook has been reviewed and amended. The new version will be reported to the SPA Corporate Governance Committee in March 2010. The handbook defines the roles and responsibilities of officers and Authority members and defines a scheme for delegation.

3. The performance regime should reflect every element of Serving Sussex;

**Update**

During 2009, the force has undertaken specific activity to improve and drive an increase in performance. This has been seen in the format of the monthly Performance Accountability Meeting, which holds the divisional and departmental heads personally to account for all areas of business e.g. crime detection and reduction, or financial accountability. This structure is supported by Divisional and Departmental accountability meetings, which allows the commanders to hold their respective staff to account. Overarching both of these principles is the new force inspection process. This formal process, which is directed by the Deputy Chief Constable examines in detail areas of performance and gives specific recommendations as to how the division or department can improve.

It is through this combination of structures and processes, incorporated with robust leadership, that the force has started to see an upturn in performance. This focus is now embedded throughout every element of Serving Sussex principles and provides a sure footing for further improvement.

4. There should be a specific vision established for Neighbourhood Policing;

**Update**

A specific Neighbourhood Policing Vision was agreed in June 2009. Ongoing analysis work monitors progress to achievement.

5. Review of current policies and guidance on information disclosure and sharing is required;

**Update**

Work continues through the MoPI project to develop a single guidance document, together with the necessary processes to manage the Information Sharing Agreements (ISA) with our partner agencies in Sussex. We are required to complete this MoPI compliance work by December 2010 and are on target to achieve this. In the last year the Sussex Criminal Justice Board has produced an overarching Information Sharing Protocol which all relevant agencies have signed up to. All other ISA's are being collated by CDD and will be reviewed to ensure they are up to date and reflect the principles of this overarching protocol.

6. Further development of communication and engagement strategies to ensure clear channels of communication with all sections of the community;

**Update**

The Authority has a communications strategy, which was revised and updated in 2010 following a review of the Authority's (and Force's) corporate communications activity in 2009. (In DS response to 15)

7. There is a need to further embed risk management throughout Sussex Police;

**Update**

Work is ongoing to further embed risk management throughout Sussex Police and Sussex Police Authority. Specific support has been provided to Silver Level Boards

in Force to embed risk management into the decision-taking processes of their meetings, including ensuring that agenda items for decision, incorporate scoping of risks.

Further development of the Risk Management System provides for the linking of risks to our principle meetings in both the Force and the Authority. This new feature, facilitates the running of reports so that each meeting can consider the risks that they oversee, as a standing agenda item.

The Police Authority have implemented considerable change to their meeting structures. This includes improved risk management arrangements, both for their internal risk management, as well as for their functions in Force oversight. Each Authority Scrutiny Committee will now receive a risk management report of all risks that are linked to the relevant Silver Level Board. Thus, The Protective Services Scrutiny Committee will receive reports of the Keeping People Safe Board risks, the Resources Scrutiny Committee will receive reports of the Best Use of Resources Board risks and the Neighbourhood Policing Scrutiny Committee will receive reports from the Neighbourhood Policing Board. This will facilitate Authority oversight of how the Force is identifying and managing their most significant strategic risks.

The Risk Management Strategy is currently being developed as Force Policy. It is anticipated that this will go to the Force Policy Board for approval in March 2010. As Force Policy, the implementation of the Strategy will be given impetus and will necessitate the provision of appropriate resources to achieve.