



## LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

# PRESS INFORMATION

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### **Statement from Leicestershire Police Authority as Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill receives Royal Assent**

Yesterday (15.09.11), the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill was granted Royal Assent and thereby became an Act of Parliament. This means that Police Authorities will be abolished and replaced by directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs). The first elections will be held in November 2012.

Barrie Roper, Chairman of Leicestershire Police Authority, said: "It is regrettable that, despite widely voiced concerns, Police Authorities will shortly be replaced by an untried and untested governance regime.

"I still do not believe that the public want to see additional costs incurred to provide a governance structure at a time when police numbers are falling. They want to see their money spent on feet on the beat.

"However, we are all fully committed to the delivery of a smooth and seamless transition process that will have no negative impact on police performance. We have a responsibility to our staff and local residents to ensure that the first Commissioner inherits a police service that is impressively fit for purpose, financially sound and effectively managed.

"The first elections will now be held in November 2012, a postponed date from the original May 2012 proposal. This additional time will be invested in improving the transition process, keeping the public and our partners informed on the changes and embedding the necessary structures to secure the financial future of the force.

"It's absolutely business as usual for the next 14 months as we drive further improvement in policing in Leicestershire. We are proud of our achievements to date and determined to leave a legacy of progressive and demonstrable improvement in local policing."

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