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## FORCE AMALGAMATIONS

Version 4

### 1. Policy statement

The current model of 43 forces across England and Wales is outdated. There should be a review of the current structure to ensure that it continues to deliver to the public a model of policing fit for the demands of modern policing. Efficiency in the police service could be improved with a smaller number of forces. In the face of continuing cuts to police budgets, a reduction in the number of police forces would release money that could be reinvested in local policing.

### 2. Responsibility

The National Board is responsible for all policy formation.

### 3. Summary

We support a reduction in the number of police forces across England and Wales. Efficiency in the police service could be improved with a smaller number of forces. There is no reason that this should lead to a loss of community policing because services would continue to be delivered locally. The duplication of senior management, including chief constables and police and crime commissioners, across 43 forces cannot be justified.

We believe there should be a review of the current force structure to ensure that it continues to deliver to the public a model of policing fit for the demands of modern policing. Any changes to the structure must result in an improvement to the delivery of policing to the public.

Any proposed changes to the current force structure must be undertaken with full and proper public consultation.

Local policing is the key stone of the service and must be at the core of any future policing model. While policing needs to be integrated and coordinated nationally and locally across borders; we believe this should not result in the loss of local identity. Local services should continue to be delivered locally.

Given the severe reductions in Government funding to the police service, forces are already having to work with neighbouring forces to assist with service delivery, this is a clear indication that the current structure needs to be examined.

#### 4. Procedures/implementation

Participate in local discussions on proposed mergers to ensure that the welfare and safety of officers and the public are at the core of any future policing model.

To lobby Government to seek a change in legislation that currently prevents a reduction in the number of chief constables, deputy chief constables and police and crime commissioners so that this money can be reinvested back into operational policing.

Responsibility is delegated to the National Secretary and/or appropriate sub-committee.

	Author	Date	Date to be reviewed	Change
Version 1	KP-EP	May 2015	May 2016	
Version 2	KP-EP	May 2016	May 2017	
Version 3	KP-EP	May 2017	May 2018	No change
Version 4	KP	January 2019	May 2020	Minor changes

Signed by:



National Chair



National Secretary