

July 2018

Issue 25



(Pictured above: 2017 Police Bravery overall winners Sgt Richardson, PC Currie and PC Otterson of Northumbria Police, with HRH Countess of Wessex)

Officers' outstanding bravery to be honoured at awards

Police officers who have demonstrated outstanding acts of bravery - including confronting terrorists, tackling murderers and rescuing people from freezing waters - will be honoured next week at the [23rd annual Police Bravery Awards](#). A ceremony to recognise their exemplary acts will take place in London on 12 July 2018. During the event, the winners from each of the eight police regions will be unveiled along with the overall winner(s).

Last [year's winners](#) (pictured above) were PS Elliott Richardson, PC Sarah Currie and PC Michael Otterson from Northumbria Police. The trio were honoured after they managed to disarm a mentally ill man with a history of violence, who had set a trap for police officers intending to shoot them.



Make your choice - get ready to vote for your National Chair



HMICFRS report states officer welfare is of 'first importance'



Take part in the Home Office's police pursuits consultation

You will be able to vote for the National Chair from 12 July. The National Chair plays a key role in the national Federation, ensuring your welfare and interests are at the heart of the service we provide, acting as principal spokesperson, and representing the organisation on a national level. An overview of nominees will be published on polfed.org after nominations close on 5 July, current chair Calum Macleod will not be re-standing. [Find out more about the process and who is eligible to stand.](#)

A report analysing the state of policing in England and Wales has identified [demand, capacity and welfare as the major issues facing modern policing](#), echoing the Federation's work in these areas. While many forces work closely with local health services, the government needs to put more support and funding in place to alleviate the pressure on the police service so that you can spend more time solving traditional crime, rather than filling gaps for other over-stretched services.

The [Home Office has launched a consultation on proposals to amend the legislation on careless and dangerous driving](#) to recognise the high level of training and skill possessed by trained police drivers. It also aims to clarify the situation for those of you who pursue motorcyclists, and asks for views as to whether the changes should also apply to police response driving. The consultation is open until midday 13 August - [access the consultation and take part here.](#)



Direct-entry detectives scheme 'not the answer'

[The Home Office is launching a new national accelerated scheme that will deliver training within 12 weeks and introduce 1,000 detectives](#) over the next five years. Karen Stephens, our Detectives' Lead, said: "This news is an insult to the experienced, hard-working detectives that we have left in service. Detective policing is in crisis and our colleagues are struggling to cope with heavy workloads and increasing demand, but another 'direct entry scheme' is not the answer."

Blog: 'Missing' £3m of Welsh police training cash

Sam Roberts, our Lead for Wales, speculates on [what has happened to the £3m contribution collected from the four forces in Wales for the Apprentice Levy](#). "I've spoken to the four Welsh chiefs, to the PCCs and the Home Secretary - no one knows where the money has gone. At a time when police funding budgets continue to be squeezed, it is unacceptable that the money is not being made available to help fund the training of police officers in Wales."

Public debate needed on future of drugs legislation

[Our Lead on Drugs Policy is calling for a public debate on the future of drugs legislation](#). Simon Kempton said: "It is clear that the current legislation does not work. The proliferation of drugs in this country is unchecked and the current situation is fuelling an illicit trade, in not only drugs, but weapons and the violence that comes with it. At a time when officers are facing unprecedented demand, we should reflect on whether current drug legislation is fit for purpose."

Interested in attending our National Custody Seminar on 11/12 September?

Pre-charge bail and mental health are expected to be among the hot topics for debate at this year's National Custody Seminar & Exhibition, which will be held at the De Vere Hotel, Daventry, Northamptonshire on 11/12 September 2018.

Those who are PFEW custody representatives, custody officers, custody managers, Police Estate Managers, Police Procurement representatives, Police Stakeholder Groups, and any organisation with a particular interest in police custody issues, are encouraged to attend. [See the agenda in full and book your place.](#)

Tell us about the state of your force IT - the good, the bad and the ugly...

We are offering the opportunity for you to be brutally honest about the IT equipment you are provided with. The results from last year's survey have helped us to raise awareness of the issues with stakeholders, and gain agreement from product providers that they will do wider and better testing of their products with police officers to help make sure that what you get is what you need and want. [Take the survey now and be in with a chance of winning an Apple iPad.](#)

Can't open the links?

Some force email clients block the hyperlinks in this newsletter. If you are having problems accessing any of the links above, please try copying the full address below and pasting it into your browser:

Police Bravery Awards 2018 - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5780.aspx

Police Bravery Awards 2017 overall winners - www.polfed.org/newsroom/4781.aspx

National Chair elections - www.polfed.org/aboutus/3731.aspx

HMICFRS State of Policing report identifies demand, capacity and welfare as major issues - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5738.aspx

Government launch pursuits consultation - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5594.aspx

Take part in the police pursuits consultation - www.gov.uk/government/consultations/police-pursuits

Direct entry detectives are not the answer - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5729.aspx

Missing £3million of Welsh police training cash - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5770.aspx

Public debate needed on the future of drugs legislation - www.polfed.org/newsroom/5886.aspx

National Custody Seminar - www.polfed.org/events/3169.aspx

Take the IT survey - www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PoliceICTUserSurvey2018

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