



Welcome to your December e-bulletin from your national Federation

'Protect the Protectors', our national campaign to change the law so that [those who assault police officers receive tougher sentences](#), has taken an important step forward in recent weeks.

More than 500 MPs attended [a three-hour debate on Police Officer Safety](#) at parliament on 2 November. Those present approved an amended bill recognising that 'any assault on a police officer is unacceptable and welcomed the work of the independent Sentencing Council in producing guidelines that specifically highlight the increased seriousness of an offence committed against anyone providing a public service'.

There was also an acceptance of the PFEW's call for the number of assaults to be accurately recorded in order to appreciate the scale of the problem. Our research suggests that an officer is assaulted every 22 minutes in England and Wales, but assaults are vastly under-reported by officers, so this is a much bigger problem than current figures suggest. Our work on this continues with further visits to parliament in the coming weeks.

If you are assaulted on duty, please report it through the appropriate channels. It is not just part of the job.

Another important project for us at the moment is our annual submission to the Police Remuneration Review Body (PRRB), which decides what pay rise you will get. As well as giving evidence for a pay increase, we have been asked to give our views on how best to apply short-term targeted measures to address recruitment and retention issues, and how much pay we think police officer apprentices should get. Last year we were successful in [four out of five of our challenges](#). Work is ongoing in relation to this and we will update you on the details of our submission in January.



Protection for police drivers

We want to get legislation changed to ensure that those of you who engage in pursuit and response drives are afforded better protection. The current legislation leaves police vulnerable to being charged with dangerous driving and does not take into account their specialised training.

The PFEW is in on-going talks with the Government to find a solution. Find out more about the campaign [on our website](#).

What do you think about Taser?

Do you think you should be able to carry Taser if you want to and are trained to? This is one of the questions in our Taser survey.

We [continue to push for you to have access to Taser](#) if you want it and your responses help us to make our case stronger. Please take part and tell us your views now, the survey takes no more than 10 minutes and closes on 20 December 2016. [Take the survey now](#).

POLICE magazine

[In the new edition](#): national vice-chair Calum Macleod says 'familiar excuses hide an alarming rise in crime'; Police and Fire Minister Brandon Lewis MP says 'collaboration is the key to transformation'; there's coverage from our first-ever Post Incident Procedure seminar; our letters page, including how you can help support a police charity single for a sick young boy; and Columnist Inspector Gadget tackles the controversial issue of spit guards.



National chair guest hosts police morale online discussion

Your national chair, Steve White, talked about our work to improve the availability of welfare support across England and Wales, and discussed the role of Taser and Body Worn Video in protecting officers.

Thank you to those who took part. If you missed it, [read more about the chat and see a full transcript here](#). We will be running more Q&A sessions in the New Year where you can put your questions directly to national reps.

Spread the word about our THUNDERCLAP thank you

[Join our THUNDERCLAP](#) and help us spread the word about the amazing work you do every day. This Christmas, we are encouraging the public to say a huge thank you to each and every police officer.

If you sign up in advance, on 14 December at 12pm a message will be posted on your social media account helping us to raise awareness of the vital work of the police service as part of the #BelieveinBlue campaign. [Sign up now](#).

Stay with us at Fed House

As a member of the PFEW you can stay at Federation House Hotel at discounted rates. Save a further 20% for you and your family by taking advantage of our current weekend promotion, which lasts until the end of April 2017.

Federation House Hotel is close to Junction 9 of the M25 and only 35 minutes from Central London by train. Perfect for some Christmas shopping! [View our website](#) to find out more.

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

- Protect the protectors campaign: <http://www.polfed.org/campaigning/3635.aspx>
- Parliament debate on police officer safety: <http://www.polfed.org/newsroom/3835.aspx>
- Protection for police drivers: http://polfed.org/campaigning/trained_drivers.aspx
- Find out about our work around Taser: <http://www.polfed.org/fedatwork/3857.aspx>
- Take the Taser survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NationalTaserSurv2016>
- POLICE magazine: <http://polfed.org/mag/default.aspx>

WeCops online discussion: <http://www.wecops.org/tweet-chats/chat-details/28>

Sign up for THUNDERCLAP: <https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/49317-believe-in-blue?locale=en>

Federation House Hotel: http://federationhouse.co.uk/special_offers.html

Police Federation of England & Wales

www.polfed.org
