

Welsh police forces to recruit new officers in first wave of 20,000 uplift

- Home Secretary set out her vision for policing at second National Policing Board meeting
- Every police force in Wales and England will be able to recruit officers in the first year of the unprecedented uplift
- 6,000 new police officers in the first wave of ambitious recruitment targets to keep our streets safe, including 302 officers across the four Welsh force areas.
- “Public are clear they want to see more police officers on their streets, whether they live in the city or the countryside” – Home Secretary

The Home Office has today confirmed the officer recruitment targets for police forces for the first year of the unprecedented drive to increase their ranks by 20,000 over the next three years.

Strengthening police numbers is a priority for the UK Government, which is providing £750 million to support forces to recruit up to 6,000 additional officers onto our streets by the end of 2020-21, the first stage in this new uplift. This is thanks to the additional funding announced by the Chancellor in the Spending Review.

Police forces in Wales will be able to recruit a total of 302 new officers. Their first-year recruitment is as follows:

- South Wales Police will be able to recruit 136 new officers, which will increase their officer numbers by 4.6%
- North Wales Police will be able to recruit 62 new officers, which will increase their officer numbers by 4.3%
- Gwent Police will be able to recruit 62 new officers, which will increase their officer numbers by 4.7%
- Dyfed-Powys Police will be able to recruit 42 new officers, which will

increase their officer numbers by 3.7%

The Home Secretary set out her vision for policing yesterday when she chaired the second meeting of the National Policing Board, involving representatives of frontline officers and police leaders.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

The public are clear they want to see more police officers on their streets, whether they live in the city or the countryside.

This is the people's priority and it is exactly what the UK Government is delivering.

It means more than 300 extra officers right across Wales, helping to cut crime and keep communities safe.

UK Government Minister in Wales Kevin Foster said:

All four of our police forces in Wales will benefit from the additional resources announced today, enabling them to tackle crime more effectively and help keep people and communities safe.

The UK Government has been clear that putting more police officers on our streets as part of our biggest recruitment drive in decades is our priority.

All officers recruited as part of the 20,000 uplift will be additional to those hired to fill existing vacancies. They are also on top of the extra officers already being recruited because of the £1 billion increase in police funding for 2019-20, which includes money from council tax and for serious violence.

UK Government funding for recruitment in 2020-21 will cover all associated costs, including training and kit.

The National Policing Board, set up by the Prime Minister in July to drive recruitment and other major policing issues, yesterday heard that all forces are already recruiting and the website for the campaign, 'Be a Force For All', has been visited more than 215,000 times.

The Police Federation and the Police Superintendents Association attended the board for the first time, honouring the Home Secretary's commitment for front line officers and their senior managers to be represented.

National Chair of the Police Federation John Apter said:

Yesterday's meeting was constructive, and it is important that we,

as the largest police staff association, were at the table to ensure our members were represented.

Investment in policing is long overdue and for the first time we now have the actual number of officers each local force will increase by in the next year.

These figures have been based on the current funding formula models and while this method is not perfect, I accept it is the only solution available to deliver the numbers quickly in year one.

We now need to ensure that the formula is revisited for future years to ensure a fairer allocation of officers across all forces, but this is certainly a positive start and will provide a much-needed boost to my members and the communities they serve.

Today's recruitment targets announcement follows the establishment of a £25 million Safer Streets Fund.

Police and Crime Commissioners can bid for funding to prevent burglary and theft in crime hotspots through initiatives that could include interventions to improve home security, such as installing better locks and gating alleyways, and making streets better lit at night, for example.

It also follows the Home Office extending a pilot to make it simpler for forces to use Section 60 serious violence stop and search powers and announcing a £20 million package of actions cracking down on county lines drug gangs.

The Home Office has also announced £10 million of funding to increase the number of officers carrying Taser to keep themselves and the public safe and said plans for a police covenant will focus on the physical protection of officers, their health and wellbeing and support for their families.

ENDS

Notes to editors

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letter to industry

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Details

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The legislation that will come into force in a no-deal Brexit will, subject to being approved by Parliament, automatically convert Community MAs into UK MAs on exit day (so-called 'grandfathering').

As stated in the guidance, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency will issue Product Licence (PL) numbers to Community MAs based on the existing UK practice for determining how many separate national licences are needed across a product range. A proposal setting out the allocated PL numbers will be sent to Community MA holders and published in early January 2019.

If your company holds one or more Community MAs and has not received our letter, please email capconversion@mhra.gov.uk so that we can verify the appropriate contact details.

For more information see our guidance on [Converting Centrally Authorised Products \(CAPs\) to UK Marketing Authorisations \(MAs\), 'grandfathering' and managing lifecycle changes](#).

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1. 9 October 2019 Change of text within Stay up to date box.
2. 31 December 2018 First published.

Two million applications to the EU

Settlement Scheme

Home Secretary Priti Patel has announced that there have been 2 million applications to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Two million applications to the EU Settlement Scheme

Home Secretary Priti Patel has today (9 October 2019) announced that there have been two million applications to the EU Settlement Scheme, according to internal figures.

The [EU Settlement Scheme](#) is designed to make it straightforward for EU citizens and their family members to stay after the UK leaves the EU.

To apply they only need to complete three key steps – prove their identity, show that they live in the UK and declare any criminal convictions. EU citizens and their family members have until at least December 2020 to apply.

According to the [latest official statistics on the EU Settlement Scheme](#), more than 1,800,000 applications had been received and more than 1,500,000 had been granted status up to the end of September 2019, providing them with an immigration status under UK law.

The statistics also show that more than 1,700,000 applications had been received from EU citizens in England, 92,700 from Scotland, 29,300 from Wales and 28,700 from Northern Ireland. The highest number of applications are from Polish, Romanian and Italian citizens, with more than 345,000 Polish citizens applying.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

EU citizens have made a huge contribution to this country and will play a key role in cementing Britain's status as an outward-looking, global leader after Brexit.

That is why I am thrilled that we have had 2 million applications to the EU Settlement Scheme so that EU citizens can secure their immigration status under UK law.

To help raise awareness of the EU Settlement Scheme at a local level, the Home Office is holding a series of innovative pop-up events across the UK where staff will answer questions and help people to apply in person.

Home Office Minister Brandon Lewis attended the launch in Great Yarmouth on

Friday 6 September 2019 and future events are planned for Aberdeen, Glasgow, Tower Hamlets, Nottingham, Leeds and Birmingham.

The Home Office will also be launching further advertising activity in the coming weeks to build upon its existing £4 million marketing campaign to encourage EU citizens to apply.

Minister of State for Security and Deputy for EU Exit and No Deal Preparation Brandon Lewis said:

EU citizens are our friends, family and neighbours and we want them to stay.

It is fantastic news that there have been two million applications to the EU Settlement Scheme.

There is plenty of support and information on offer to help people apply and get the status they need. That includes a helpline that is open seven days a week, a toolkit for employers and an army of voluntary organisations up and down the country to support hard-to-reach EU citizens.

There is a wide range of support available for EU citizens and their families to help them apply. We have awarded up to £9,000,000 to 57 voluntary and community sector organisations across the UK who are helping vulnerable people such as the homeless, disabled and elderly.

Additional support is also available to those EU citizens in the UK who do not have the appropriate access, skills or confidence to apply. This includes more than 300 assisted digital locations across the UK where people can be supported through their application and more than 80 locations where applicants can have their passport scanned and verified.

Corporate report: Greening Government ICT: Sustainable technology annual report 2018 to 2019

This report sets out the progress government departments have made in making their digital services and technologies more sustainable.