

Introducing the Partnership and Engagement team, and our new Regional Outreach service

News story

A look at our Partnership and Engagement team, and the work of our new Regional Safeguarding Outreach Officers.



Over the next four weeks, the Disclosure and Barring Service will be promoting the role of our Partnership and Engagement team, alongside the role of our new Regional Safeguarding Outreach Officers. This campaign will also focus on maximising understanding of the legal duty to refer throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

A [central hub](#) has been created, which will be updated over the course of the next four weeks, to include information about our Outreach Officers, what region they each cover, the support they provide, and how to contact them if you'd like to find out more.

Part of this campaign will also include a spotlight on one of our Regional Safeguarding Outreach Officers, Allister Woods, and the work he is doing in Northern Ireland.

The Partnership and Engagement team work regularly with other organisations, looking at how we can collaborate and share key messages amongst the safeguarding community. Their work includes national and sector-based engagement, and events with organisations such as British Ice-skating, British Wheelchair Basketball, and universities – specifically for students that will be engaging in regulated activity.

The team are also responsible for planning and delivering [the DBS Conference](#).

Other pieces of previous, and upcoming, work include:

- sessions with university students studying Social Care with The Greater Lancashire Teaching Partnership and Teeside University – a significant

part of these sessions focused on barring referrals and the legal duty to refer

- workshops with staff responsible for submitting DBS checks at the University of Manchester – the sessions included an overview of the DBS checking process and looked at the different levels of DBS checks, regulated activity and barring referrals
- speaking about barring referrals and the legal duty to refer at a number of events, including the Department for Education's 'Prevent Independent Learning Providers Network' event, and the London Safeguarding Children Partnership Managers Meeting
- delivering a barring-focused event to Foster Care Providers and Foster Panel Members

Follow along with this work on the official DBS Twitter account [@dbsgovuk](https://twitter.com/dbsgovuk), and get in touch if you have any questions or would like to find out more.

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[Requirement for all parole hearings to be held in private to be relaxed](#)

- rule will be changed to allow the possibility of public parole hearings in some cases
- protecting victims from harm and distress will remain a priority
- Root-and-Branch Review considering other moves towards greater transparency

The change will end a blanket ban on public hearings when introduced later this year, though it is anticipated that the vast majority will continue to be heard in private. It follows a public consultation launched in October which found broad support for the move.

Rules governing what information can be disclosed from parole hearings are under consideration as part of the government's wider review of the parole system. The Root-and-Branch Review is intended to improve public trust and victim confidence in the system and will report back in the summer.

Under the new system, anyone would be able to request that a hearing be heard in public. The Chair of the Parole Board will then decide whether an open hearing would be 'in the interests of justice', a test already used by the Mental Health Tribunal for this purpose.

Because of the sensitive nature of what is discussed, including offenders' medical information and graphic accounts of their crimes, and the need to protect victims' privacy it is expected that most hearings would not meet

this test.

Victims and the prisoner themselves will be consulted before a decision is reached and, although neither will have a veto, the Parole Board is unlikely to agree to a public hearing where it will cause significant distress to victims or where the victims are children (or were at the time of the offence).

Justice Minister Lucy Frazer MP said:

The government wants victims to be allowed to attend parole hearings if they wish but we appreciate many would find a public hearing distressing.

Our ongoing Root-and-Branch Review will consider how to achieve victim attendance so that they can see first-hand how decisions have been reached in a comfortable and supportive setting.

Attendees would not be entitled to intervene, ask questions of the witnesses or address the panel, much like in a court setting, except where a victim is presenting their personal statement.

It will remain at the discretion of the Parole Board what information heard in the hearing can be disclosed or reported. But the consultation highlighted how integral other issues are to the opening up of parole hearings, such as the rules around disclosure of information, contempt powers and the support available to victims. These issues require careful thought to ensure the parole process remains safe and effective for all participants and will now be considered in the round as part of the Root-and-Branch Review.

The rule change will be introduced through secondary legislation later this year and the Parole Board will also set out in guidance how they will approach requests for open hearings.

Directors appointed to the Independent Office for Police Conduct

Five new independent directors have been announced as they join the Board in non-executive roles at the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC).

The 5 appointees are as follows:

Bill Matthews

Bill began his career as an engineer before progressing into business and operations management roles with Motorola. He then spent 5 years running technology start-ups before building a portfolio of non-executive roles spanning media, health and criminal justice.

Previously a member of the BBC Trust and Chair of the BBC Pension Scheme, Bill now chairs the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission, is a non-executive director at the Scottish Futures Trust and the Scottish Member of the British Transport Police Authority.

He was a founding non-executive member of the IOPC's Board on its formation in January 2018 and has been re-appointed to the role after being successful in an open and fair competition.

Deborah Bowman

Deborah is Emeritus Professor of Bioethics, Clinical Ethics and Medical Law at St George's University of London, where she also held the role of Deputy Principal until November 2020, with particular responsibility for:

- organisational culture
- public engagement
- quality and partnerships
- equality, diversity and inclusion

She holds several non-executive, trustee and advisory roles, including serving on the Boards of the Human Tissue Authority, South West London and St George's NHS Mental Health Trust, Princess Alice Hospice and the General Osteopathic Council.

She sits as a panel chair for the United Kingdom Council on Psychotherapy and chairs clinical ethics committees, both regional and national.

Rommel Moseley

Rommel's professional experience is in business development, service design and change management. He is an acknowledged expert in the field of corporate, government and charity partnerships – having spent 20 years negotiating and delivering complex, mutually beneficial partnerships.

Rommel is currently a director of the Thomson Reuters Foundation, which works to advance media freedom, inclusive economies and human rights around the world.

He is a former director at Drinkaware where he developed partnerships across government, including with the Home Office, local authorities and Police and Crime Commissioners, to reduce harm to young people in the night-time economy.

Rommel previously served as the vice chair of the London Night-time Commission and Chair of the Research and Data Group which provided all insights and data to allow the commission to make evidence-based recommendations.

Catherine Jervis

Catherine has held a range of board level positions including current roles as non-executive director at First Community Health and Care (CiC) and non-executive director and SID with Barnet Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust.

She recently joined Achieving for Children, a community interest company, as an independent non-executive director.

Prior to this, Catherine was an executive director and strategic advisor to the CEO of a national education charity (AFA). At PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, she led the Children's Services Team working across education, health and social care.

Catherine is a qualified accountant. Like Bill, Catherine was also a founding non-executive member of the IOPC's board on its formation in January 2018 and has been reappointed to the role after being successful in an open and fair competition.

Christine Elliott

Christine, whose term as Acting Chair of the College of Policing ended in December 2020, was the College's first independent director appointed in 2015. She is a proven senior leader with substantial chairing and non-executive experience. Christine is also Chair of the Health and Care Professions Council, which regulates 15 professions. She is also an independent lay member of the Editors' Code Committee, which reviews and revises the Code used by all UK press regulators.

Her career encompasses public, private and non-profit sectors. Christine is on the advisory board of Trybe.ID, a digital identity and credentialing platform headquartered in Toronto, Canada. She also chairs the advisory board of Albeego Ltd, a British mobile telecoms firm providing digital devices with stable, secure internet connectivity.

About the announcement

The announcement follows a stringent recruitment process, which followed the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA) Code of Practice.

Successful individuals were then appointed by the Home Secretary.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

I welcome these appointments – each of the appointees bring a

wealth of different experiences drawn from the private and public sectors.

The work that the Independent Office for Police Conduct carries out is critical to maintaining public confidence in our police complaints system. These appointees will play a vital role in ensuring the efficient and effective running of the organisation.

Geoffrey Podger will remain in post as the Senior Independent Director. Further announcements on the remaining non-executive roles on the Board will be made in due course.

This news story was updated on 15 February 2021 to include details about Christine Elliot, new independent director appointed to the IOPC.

ESFA: Inform

1. 18 January 2022

January 2022 edition of Inform newsletter published.

2. 21 December 2021

December edition of Inform newsletter published

3. 22 November 2021

November edition of Inform published.

4. 21 October 2021

October edition of Inform published.

5. 16 September 2021

September 2021 edition of Inform newsletter published.

6. 19 August 2021

August 2021 edition of Inform newsletter published.

7. 20 July 2021

July 2021 edition of Inform newsletter published.

8. 21 June 2021

June edition of Inform newsletter published.

9. 14 May 2021

We have published the May 2021 edition of ESFA Inform.

10. 17 March 2021

We have published the March 2021 edition of ESFA Inform.

11. 8 February 2021

We have published Inform for February 2021.

12. 8 December 2020

We have published the December edition of ESFA Inform.

13. 9 November 2020

November Inform newsletter published.

14. 5 October 2020

We have published the October edition of Inform.

15. 4 September 2020

We've published the September edition of our Inform newsletter.

16. 5 August 2020

August 2020 edition of Inform newsletter published.

17. 6 March 2020

March inform newsletter published

18. 31 January 2020

February edition of inform published.

19. 15 January 2020

January 2020 Inform newsletter published.

20. 5 November 2019

October Inform newsletter published.

21. 1 October 2019

September edition of Inform newsletter added.

22. 6 September 2019

August edition of inform newsletter added.

23. 26 July 2019

We have published Inform for July 2019.

24. 28 June 2019

We have published the June 2019 issue of Inform.

25. 31 May 2019

We have published the May 2019 issue of Inform.

26. 26 April 2019

We have published the April edition of Inform.

27. 29 March 2019

We have published the March edition of ESFA Inform.

28. 22 February 2019

We have published the February 2019 edition of Inform.

29. 25 January 2019

We have published the January 2019 issue of ESFA Inform.

30. 14 December 2018

We have published Inform for December 2018.

31. 3 December 2018

We have amended the information in ESFA Inform November 2018 about apprenticeship completion payments.

32. 30 November 2018

We have published ESFA Inform November 2018.

33. 26 October 2018

We have published the latest issue of ESFA Inform.

34. 28 September 2018

We have published the latest issue of ESFA Inform.

35. 31 August 2018

We have published Inform August 2018.

36. 27 July 2018

We have published the July issue of Inform.

37. 29 June 2018

We have published June's version of Inform.

38. 25 May 2018

Published inform May 2018.

39. 27 April 2018

We have published the April 2018 issue of Inform.

40. 29 March 2018

We've published the March issue of Inform.

41. 23 February 2018

Latest version of inform published.

42. 26 January 2018

Inform January 2018 uploaded on 26 January 2018

43. 15 December 2017

Inform December 2017 uploaded on 15 December 2017.

44. 27 November 2017

Inform November 2017 uploaded on 27 November 2017.

45. 27 October 2017

Inform October 2017 uploaded on 27 October 2017.

46. 29 September 2017

Inform September 2017 uploaded on 29 September 2017.

47. 25 August 2017

Inform August 2017 uploaded on 25 August 2017.

48. 28 July 2017

Inform July 2017 uploaded on 28 July 2017.

49. 30 June 2017

June 2017 Inform uploaded on Friday 30 June.

50. 2 June 2017

Inform May 2017 uploaded on 2 June 2017.

51. 31 March 2017

Inform March 2017 published.

52. 27 January 2017

SFA Inform issue uploaded on 27 January 2017.

53. 16 December 2016

Inform issue 114 uploaded on 16 December 2016.

54. 24 November 2016

Inform issue 113 November 2016 uploaded on 24 November 2016.

55. 28 October 2016

Inform issue 112: October 2016 uploaded on 28 October 2016

56. 30 September 2016

SFA Inform issue 111 published 30 September 2016.

57. 26 August 2016

Inform issue 110 uploaded on 26 August 2016

58. 29 July 2016

SFA Inform July issue 109 uploaded on 29 July 2016

59. 24 June 2016

SFA Inform June issue 108 uploaded on 24 June 2016

60. 27 May 2016

SFA Inform May issue 107 uploaded on 27 May 2016

61. 29 April 2016

SFA Inform April issue 106 uploaded on 29 April 2016

62. 23 March 2016

SFA Inform March issue 105 uploaded on 23 March 2016

63. 26 February 2016

SFA Inform February issue 104 uploaded on 26 February 2016

64. 29 January 2016

- SFA Inform January issue 103 uploaded on 29 January 2016.
65. 18 December 2015
- SFA Inform December issue 102 uploaded on 18 December 2015
66. 27 November 2015
- SFA Inform November issue 101 uploaded on 27 November 2015
67. 30 October 2015
- SFA Inform October issue 100 uploaded on 30 October 2015.
68. 25 September 2015
- SFA Inform September issue 99 uploaded on 25 September 2015.
69. 28 August 2015
- Inform 98 August 2015 uploaded on 28 August 2015.
70. 31 July 2015
- Inform 97 July 2015 uploaded on 31 July 2015.
71. 26 June 2015
- SFA: Inform June 2015 published on 26 June 2015.
72. 29 May 2015
- Inform issue 95: May 2015 uploaded on 29 May 2015.
73. 27 March 2015
- Inform issue 94: March 2015 uploaded on 27 March 2015.
74. 27 February 2015
- Inform issue 93: February 2015 published.
75. 30 January 2015
- Inform issue 92: January 2015 uploaded on 30 January 2015.
76. 19 December 2014
- Inform issue 91: December 2014 uploaded 19 December 2014.
77. 28 November 2014
- Inform issue 90: November 2014 uploaded on 28 November 2014
78. 31 October 2014

Inform October 2014 issue published 31 October 2014.

79. 29 August 2014

Inform 87: August 2014 published 29 August 2014.

80. 31 July 2014

Just published: Inform, July issue

81. 30 June 2014

New document added – Inform issue 85: June 2014

82. 30 April 2014

Document added – Inform issue 83: April 2014

83. 28 March 2014

Inform 82: March 2014 issue added

84. 28 February 2014

First published.

[UK nationals living in Norway: UDI residency card/permit portal](#)

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