

WHAT CAA MEANS FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

CAA embraces within its scope the roles and responsibilities of all the local partners contributing to the delivery of community safety outcomes in an area and will draw together the perspectives of HMI Constabulary and the Audit Commission, and where relevant, HMI Probation, HMI Prisons, the Healthcare Commission and the Commission for Social Care Inspection (to be combined in April 2009 to form the Care Quality Commission) and Ofsted (referred to as the joint inspectorates).

CAA and the new performance assessment framework for policing, the Assessment of Policing and Community Safety (APACS) are being designed to align fully. The two frameworks will complement each other, supporting the delivery of local services in line with nationally and locally identified priorities.

Through the area assessment, the joint inspectorates will make one assessment of community safety outcomes delivered by Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) partners in an area.

Area assessment

The Audit Commission expects to draw on a wide range of evidence sources on which to base its joint assessment. These include:

- The Local Area Agreement
- The Sustainable Community Strategy
- The Local Policing Plan
- CDRP strategic assessments
- The views and experiences of local people will be a primary source of evidence
- Partners' performance against the community safety indicators within the National Indicator Set

The Audit Commission will consider how effectively citizens are involved in the setting of local priorities and local spending decisions on policing and community safety. In doing so it will draw on available evidence, such as HMI Constabulary's assessment of neighbourhood policing and citizen focus.

CDRP partners are developing a range of approaches to self evaluation. While not a requirement of CAA, the Audit Commission will take full account of the partnership evaluation of area outcomes, and any self evaluation against the Hallmarks of Effective Practice.

The Audit Commission anticipates that there will be a commentary on community safety outcomes in all area assessment reports.

Use of Resources

The scored use of resources judgement for police authorities and forces will form part of the APACS framework from 2009 onwards.

What does it mean for the Police?

CAA provides a mechanism to ensure that the needs of the local population are met through agencies working closely together to deliver improved outcomes. CAA will act as a catalyst for public bodies to deliver better community safety outcomes for local people and better value for public money.

Further details about the CAA can be found at the Audit Commission website:
<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/caa/>