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To all Chief Officers and all Chairs and Chief Executives of Police Authorities
in England and Wales

24 March 2009

Police Collaboration and Protective Services Seminar – 24 April 2009

Following on from the successful Police Collaboration event held in September last year, I am pleased to be writing to let you know of our plans for the next event which will be a seminar on 24 April in Birmingham.

As we stressed in last year's Green Paper, effective collaboration is at the heart of our approach to closing the protective services gap. The Policing Minister, Vernon Coaker, said to Parliament during the Committee stage of the Policing and Crime Bill on 5 February that collaboration is fundamental to the future of policing – but that some momentum needs to be injected into this debate as we move forward. The progress being made across England and Wales is impressive but there is still much to do if the expectations about improvements in protective services delivery are to be met. This is informed by the combined picture painted by HMIC's recent reports in this area.

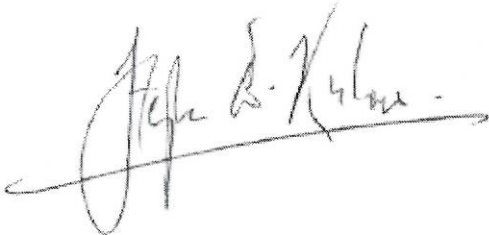
The seminar on 24 April will be an opportunity, as part of this ongoing programme, to consider the way forward for improving protective services and building on the excellent work already taking place. Subjects we hope to cover in presentations and workshops include:

- An update on progress and the way forward on protective services;
- The areas being examined for development of guidance from the Collaboration Demonstration Sites programme with support from our evaluation contractor, Matrix:
 - human resources,
 - governance and accountability,
 - benefits realisation and finance.
- The revisions to the legislative framework and development of statutory guidance;
- More of the experiences from ongoing collaboration programmes around the country.

Last year's collaboration event was well attended by Chief Officers, Chairs and Chief Executives from around England and Wales as well as a number of teams from the Collaboration Demonstration Sites. We would like to continue to build on the success of this format and again involve force and regional protective services and collaboration leads as well as those working at the front end of collaborative delivery in the service.

While the agenda is still being put together, we expect this event to start at approximately 10:00/10:30 and finish by approximately 16:00. We will notify you of the full agenda, key note speakers and venue as soon as possible, but I would be grateful if you could notify the programme office by **1 April** of the names and contact details of those who wish to attend using the following address:

police.collaboration@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Kershaw', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

STEPHEN KERSHAW