

News in brief

Sergeants

The role of sergeants will come under the spotlight at the Sergeants' Central Committee Conference in Bournemouth.

As national debate focuses on the idea of a 'super cop' in the constable rank, the committee will discuss where the role of sergeant fits into police reform.

Officer honoured

Family and friends paid tribute to PC Joe Carroll known as 'a real old fashioned copper' at his funeral last month.

The Northumbria police officer died when his patrol car crashed as he was taking an arrested man into custody on April 13.

Mike Craik, chief constable of Northumbria Police, said: "This is an enormous loss for all of us to bear and is a particular shock as Joe was doing the routine duties he so much loved and cared about, protecting his community. Joe has been a police officer for over 24 years and was enormously proud to have been the local community officer in his own village for 13 years."

Constable role

Police modernisation and the role of the constable will be discussed as part of the Constables' Central Committee Conference.

Bob Quick, ACPO lead on modernisation and chief constable of Surrey Police, who advocates an 'advanced' constable role will be part of the panel at the Federation's Conference in Bournemouth.

Inspectors

Nearly a fifth of inspectors and chief inspectors expected to take charge during firearms situations are not trained in the position, according to a survey carried out by the Inspectors' Central Committee.

The full results of the survey into training and development for the inspector and chief inspector ranks will be announced at the Police Federation's annual conference in Bournemouth this month.

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Police women

Police minister Hazel Blears is due to speak about encouraging women in the police service to progress and specialise.

The Women's Eve of Conference will feature a discussion on how women can progress in the service.

Dr Vivette Glover from Imperial College will also present findings which indicate a link between stress on unborn babies and later criminality.

Women's Eve of Conference is part of the Police Federation's annual Conference held in Bournemouth this month.