

- of evidence by local forces in designing their policing plans.
- ♦ Build on the success of crime maps to use data more effectively to reduce crime, working towards the publication of business-by-business data for crimes committed on commercial premises, and exploring the feasibility of mandatory reporting of fraud losses by individual credit and debit card providers.

9.2 Improving local policing

We are successfully bringing down crime and improving the efficiency of our police forces, but there is more to do. We believe the police could be far more effective with proper support and shared best practice.

We will:

- ♦ Guarantee the police pursue the public's priorities by replacing Police and Crime Commissioners with Police Boards made up of Councillors from across the force area.
- ♦ Encourage police forces and other emergency services to work together at a local, regional and national level to reduce back office costs and deliver efficiency savings.
- ♦ Support and expand Police Now, which is bringing high-flying graduates and skilled mid-career professionals into our police forces.
- ♦ Explore the case for transferring responsibility for more serious national crime to the National Crime Agency, enabling local police forces to focus on local crime and anti-social behaviour.
- ♦ Step up our work with EU partners to tackle serious and organised crime.

9.3 Improve support for victims of crime

The criminal justice system exists to protect the public from crime; where crime does occur victims are our first priority. We need to make sure they, and their families, are supported both in the aftermath of crimes and throughout the justice system.

We will:

- ♦ Enact a Victims' Bill of Rights.
- ♦ Create a single point of contact for victims to give early access to information and support.
- ♦ Change sentencing guidelines to increase sentences available for hate crimes.