

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation received the highest number of learning points (16), with no positives. For the purpose of this document, these have been sub-divided into meaningful issues.

Immediate Access Passes – 3 learning points, including:

- "Escort drivers not given Immediate Access pass, unlike their SB colleagues. Problems arose when trying to access the Island Site at short notice." [GMP]
- "Not enough thought given to persons requiring Immediate Access passes." [GMP]

Vehicle Passes – 2 learning points:

- "PSU vehicles issued with pass at the last minute." [GMP]
- "All council vehicles should have accreditation (vehicle passes) to assist GMP at checkpoints. [MCC]

Venue for Conference Services – 2 learning points:

- "Venue for accreditation inappropriate, e.g. Too small; too far away; insufficient queuing space; bad working conditions. We were let down late in the day by the expected venue." [Labour]
- "Poor venue for accreditation. Late identification of venue." [Venue]

General Accreditation issues – 9 learning points, including:

- "Delegates registered very late, thus delays occurred surrounding accreditation and issuing of security passes." [Marketing Mcr]
- There was no backlog of work with the police. All accreditation requests were turned around extremely quickly and all applications were processed as they arrived. It was unhelpful to receive complaints that the police were the cause of people queuing when very often accreditation officers had insufficient work to keep them fully occupied. A number of flexible solutions were introduced to assist the Labour Party overcome their difficulties. One was the increased use of 'escorted passes', which had a subsequent negative effect on police resourcing at the Island Site." [GMP]
- "Perception that there is no central (national) management of political conferences by the police. No central (national) point to co-ordinate overall accreditation issues. To date, no contact from police specifically on accreditation." [Labour]
 - "Each force is still going through its internal and external debrief procedures. Next week we host the Four-Forces Annual debrief. This in turn will inform the ACPO Policing of Party Conferences later in the month." [GMP]
 - "The issues raised over accreditation, both at the Labour and the Tory conferences has caused the planned national police Conference Accreditation Practitioners Group (CAPG) debrief to be rescheduled from a single-day into a two-day event. This rescheduling means it will now happen later this month. After that meeting, there will be an invitation for both the Parties to get involved in the way forward." [GMP]
 - "We (Labour Party) are already having meetings with Dorset over the next Conference." [Labour]
 - "Dorset chairs both the ACPO meeting and the CAPG meeting." [GMP]

- "Preparation (by IT) of CAS/ELS (police accreditation and logistics databases) due to differing interpretations of requirements and lack of similar experiences (i.e. GMP's first annual conference)." [GMP]
- "The development of the IT systems continued right up to conference, even though accreditation had been running for 6 months. Diverted time away from task of supervising accreditation and caused serious problems for pass production & distribution." [GMP]

7 suggestions as to how this aspect may be improved next time:

- "Better authorisation arrangements for access to vehicle control zones for routine work like refuse removal, emergency maintenance." [MCC]
- "All council staff (vehicles) requiring access to vehicle control zones to receive passes, rather than rely on GMP staff being briefed (on authorised access)." [MCC]
- "Allow access without security screening for all who have attended before (except disruptives)." [Labour]
 - "The SCAR database does take into account the previous attendance at conference and speeds up the process. Part of the problem is that people apply late. If we don't know someone is coming until the last minute, they still have to supply a photograph and be put on the system so the bar-coded pass will work. That all takes time. There is a need to divorce accreditation from revenue generation and anticipate likely attendees based on previous years attendance, so you just need to print a pass and we just need to activate it." [GMP]
- "Early identification of a suitable venue for accreditation office." [Labour]
- "IT co-ordination between GMP / LP for accreditation." [Labour]
- "Labour Party staff to be involved in planning of accreditation systems with police IT personnel." [Labour]
- "Labour to develop a web-based, on-line accreditation process." [Labour]