

MINUTES OF THE DYFED POWYS POLICE AUTHORITY

held at the Media Resources Centre, Llandrindod Wells
on Monday, 17th September 2007

PRESENT:

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor T H Lewis
Councillor J D R Jones, MBE

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor W G Hopkins
Councillor D A Tucker

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor J T Davies
Councillor D M Evans
Councillor A W Wilcox

POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor R G Brown
Councillor K Tampin

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

Mr P Gray
Mrs D A Humfryes
Mr A M S Kenwright
Dr C Stock
Mrs H M Thomas

LAY JUSTICE MEMBERS


Mr J K Howell J.P.
Professor I Roffe J.P.
Mr S Vipond J.P.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr A Fry [Acting Chief Executive]
Mrs J Wilding [Treasurer]
Ms C Morgans [Assistant Clerk]
Deputy Chief Constable B Taylor
Mr A Bevan [Director of Finance and Resources]
Mr P Morris [Head of Corporate Services]
Mrs J Evans [Member Services Officer]

OBSERVER

PC P Small [Police Federation]

36.	<p><u>CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman asked all present to stand in silent tribute to four retired police officers of the Dyfed Powys Police, namely Mr John Perkins, Mr Peter Richard Davies, Mr Charles Wynne Owen and Mr Alex Bowen-Jenkins, who had recently passed away. • The Chairman welcomed Mr Bob Jones, Chair of the Association of Police Authorities, to the meeting and congratulated him on being re-appointed as the Chair, which was an indication of the esteem in which he is held. Mr Jones had been invited to update the Authority on current issues affecting police authorities and to answer any questions. • The Chairman informed Members that Mr Keith Reeves had returned to work after a period of sick leave. He thanked Mrs Wilding for holding the position of Acting Chief Executive since April until Mr Alan Fry took over the Acting position on 1st September 2007. • Mr Fry updated Members on the current state of health of Councillor Ray Thomas, Chair of the South Wales Police Authority, who sustained a serious head injury whilst gardening over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Members were pleased to learn that Councillor Thomas had made significant improvements recently and asked that the very best wishes of the Members and Staff be conveyed to him for a speedy recovery. • The Chairman referred to the Interim Report of Chief HMIC, Sir Ronnie Flanagan, which was published on 14th September. Members had received a copy and Mr Jones would make reference to the document at the end of the meeting. 	ACE
37.	<p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor W J W Evans, Mrs A Williams, Mr K B Reeves and the Chief Constable.</p>	
38.	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor D M Evans declared a personal interest in relation to Special Priority Payments and took no part in the debate. 	
39.	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – POLICE AUTHORITY AGM – 18TH JUNE 2007</u></p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Minutes of the Police Authority Annual General Meeting held on 18th June 2007 be confirmed as an accurate record. 2. That an Action Sheet be prepared to accompany Authority minutes in the future. <p style="text-align: center;">  C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D </p>	MSO

40.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – FINANCE RESOURCES AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 11TH JULY 2007

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Finance Resources and Information Management Committee held on 11th July 2007 be received and recommendations therein adopted.



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• Minute F17 – Special Priority Payments

Mrs D Humfryes, Chair of the Finance Resources and Information Management Committee, provided a summary of the debate at the meeting on 11th July, in relation to the accidental award of Special Priority Payments to a number of officers in the Force. All but four of the officers repaid the amount that was paid to them in error and the Authority resolved to instigate legal proceedings against the remaining four officers. In the chain of events, legal proceedings were ceased prior to the Authority resolving to continue with legal proceedings (Minute F88(b) – 1st June 2007). The matter was debated at the Finance meeting on 11th July (Minute F17) when it was resolved to refer the matter back to the Police Authority. It was proposed by Mrs Humfryes that the Authority should not repay money incorrectly paid to officers in 2004.

Mr Fry, Acting Chief Executive, referred to a letter from the Police Federation sent to each Member, which clearly set out their position in relation to the overpayments. Although the letter was helpful in understanding the Federation position, Mr Fry was concerned as to how any repayments would be viewed by the Council Tax Payer and also the External Auditor. Moreover, contracts of employment for police staff were clear in requiring any overpayments made to individuals to be reimbursed.




Mr Bevan, Director of Finance and Resources confirmed that the legal advice given was not conflicting but had been given in good faith based on the circumstances and information available at the time.



Members expressed grave concern at the integrity of the four officers who chose not to repay the sum paid to them in error.



RESOLVED

That no repayments should be made to officers who received Special Priority Payments in error in 2004.

CC/
DFR

<p>41.</p>	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 16TH JULY 2007</u></p> <p>The newly appointed Chair of the Committee, Councillor J T Davies, provided a summary of the meeting.</p> <p> C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Minutes of the Performance Management and Scrutiny Committee held on 16th July 2007 be received and recommendations therein adopted, subject to the inclusion of Councillor J D R Jones in the apologies.</p>	<p>MSO</p>
<p>42.</p>	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINIUTES – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 19TH JULY 2007</u></p> <p>The Authority considered the Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee held on 19th July 2007.</p> <p> C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee held on 19th July 2007 be received and recommendations therein adopted.</p>	
<p>43.</p>	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ETHICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 20TH JULY 2007</u></p> <p>The Authority considered the Minutes of the Ethical Standards Committee held on 20th July 2007.</p> <p> C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Minutes of the Ethical Standards Committee held on 20th July 2007 be received and recommendations therein adopted.</p>	

<p>44.</p>	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – EMERGENCY COMMITTEE – 8TH AUGUST 2007</u></p> <p>The Authority considered the Minutes of the Emergency Committee held on 8th August 2007.</p>  <p>C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Minutes of the Emergency Committee held on 8th August 2007, be confirmed as a correct record. 2. That the Authority formally adopt the new model Code of Conduct for Members, as set out in Statutory Instrument 2007 No. 1159. 	
<p>45.</p>	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 5TH SEPTEMBER 2007</u></p> <p>The Authority considered the Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee held on 5th September 2007.</p>  <p>C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee held on 5th September 2007, be received and recommendations therein adopted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minute CE11 – Gender Equality Scheme <p>In response to a query, Members were assured that they would be furnished with a final copy of the Gender Equality Scheme before final approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minute CE17 – Local Policing Summaries <p>The Treasurer confirmed that Local Policing Summaries, if distributed with the Council Tax leaflets, would not be posted to every household until March 2008, however, given the difficulties that had been experienced in the past, this option would ensure that every household received a copy of the document.</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>T/HCS</p>
<p>46.</p>	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – AUDIT COMMITTEE – 5TH SEPTEMBER 2007</u></p> <p>The Authority considered the Minutes of the Audit Committee held on 5th September 2007.</p>	

	 <p>C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">That the Minutes of the Audit Committee held on 5th September 2007, be received and recommendations therein adopted.</p> <p>It was suggested that the terms of reference should specifically allow for the Authority to challenge Force expenditure. The Treasurer stated that this would be taken into consideration in the overall review of the Authority's terms of reference by the Strategic Policy Working Party.</p>	T
47.	<p><u>APPOINTMENTS PANEL FOR DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE</u></p> <p>The Acting Chief Executive reminded Members that Deputy Chief Constable Barry Taylor was due to retire on 30th September 2007 and that procedures were in place to appoint his successor. Mr Fry thanked all who attended the training for the appointment of Chief Officers on 3rd September and asked Members to consider the composition of the Appointments Panel.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Panel for the Appointment of Deputy Chief Constable comprise the Chair, Vice-Chair and Immediate Past Chair of the Authority, the Chairs of the four Main Standing Committees and the Lead Member for Equality and Diversity as substitute. 2. That the Acting Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair, be delegated authority to appoint any other substitutes, chosen from Members who had received the appropriate training. <p>The Acting Chief Executive reminded Members that the closing date for applications was 28th September 2007. The Senior Appointments Panel would meet on 11th October and short-listing was scheduled for 24th October. A date for the interviews had yet to be arranged.</p>	ACE
48.	<p><u>SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2007/08</u></p> <p>At the Annual General Meeting on 18th June 2007, Members approved a Schedule of Meetings up to the beginning of September. A Schedule of Meetings for the remainder of 2007/08 was presented for Members' consideration.</p>  <p>C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">That the Schedule of Meetings for 2007/08 be approved.</p>	

<p>49.</p>	<p><u>STRATEGIC REVIEW OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY</u></p> <p>The Acting Chief Executive reported that recent guidance relating to police authorities pointed to the advisability of developing a strategic plan for the Authority. New requirements in respect of governance arrangements and the approach adopted in the Police Authority Self Assessment Framework (PASAF) were based on authorities having strategic plans in place. A briefing paper on Good Governance, the PASAF and the latest drafts of Good Governance guidance were circulated to Members. The Performance Management and Scrutiny Committee on 16th July 2007 (Minute PM10), supported the development of a strategic plan for the Authority.</p> <p>Officers of the Authority had undertaken preparatory work in the period since mid-July, to identify an approach, for Members' consideration, for the strategic development of the Authority, together with proposed terms of reference for a review (attached).</p> <p>Members expressed the view that this was a very important document for the Authority to set out its priorities and vision for the future as a going concern. The review would also need to take account of national documents, including the review of Policing by Sir Ronnie Flanagan.</p> <p>The Treasurer added that the process would assist in developing a Code of Corporate Governance which was required by 2008.</p> <p>The Acting Chief Executive also commented that the review could offer Police Authorities in Wales an opportunity to consider how they could work together in innovative ways. Comments that had already been submitted by Members would be taken into consideration as part of the review. Officers noted comments in relation to the review having an emphasis on the Authority's delivery capability and also risks.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Authority makes a commitment to the principle of developing a Strategic Plan. 2. That the Authority approves the Terms of Reference for the review work. 3. That the review be driven through the Strategic Policy Working Party and a series of Members' Seminars. 4. That an interim report be presented to the Police Authority on 17th December 2007, including a time-table for the completion of the review, but with an end date of 31st March 2008. 	<p>CE/T/ AC</p>
<p>50.</p>	<p><u>DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS</u></p> <p>The Director of Finance and Resources presented a report on behalf of the Chief Constable. The report was intended to brief Members on an amendment required to the draft Statement of Accounts which were approved at the Police Authority meeting held on the 18th June 2007 and provide information to Members on the formula funding for 2008/09.</p>	

Amendment to draft Statement of Accounts

This issue would be referred to in the Wales Audit Office ISA 260 - Communication of Audit Matters to those Charged with Governance report to be presented at the Audit Committee meeting scheduled for 28th September 2007.

Police Pensions Top-up Grant

The funding arrangements for the police officer pension scheme changed on the 1st April 2006.

Before the 1st April 2006 this scheme did not have an employer's contribution as a percentage of pensionable pay. Instead each Police Authority was responsible for paying the pensions of its own former employees on a pay as you go basis.

Under the new funding arrangements the scheme would remain unfunded but it would no longer be on a pay as you go basis as far as an individual Police Authority was concerned. Authorities would no longer meet the pension outgoings directly; instead they would pay an employer's pension contribution based on a percentage of pay into the Pension Fund. Each individual Police Authority was required by legislation to operate a Pension Fund and the amounts that must be paid into and paid out of the Pension Fund were specified by Regulation. The Police Pension Fund Regulations 2007 came into effect on the 1st August 2007.

Under the new arrangements the Pension Fund would be balanced to nil at the end of the year by either paying over to the Home Office the amount by which the amounts receivable by the Force for the year exceeded the amounts payable, or by receiving cash in the form of pension top-up grant from the Home Office equal to the amount by which the amount payable from the pension fund for the year exceeded the amount receivable. In the case of Dyfed Powys Police a top up grant of £956,000 was required in 2006/07.

It was the accounting treatment of the top up grant income which had been subject to debate nationally between Police Authorities, the Wales Audit Office and CIPFA which now required a material adjustment to the draft Statement of Accounts.

Accounting treatment adopted in draft Statement of Accounts

The draft Statement of Accounts approved at the Police Authority meeting on 18th June 2007 complied with The *CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom – A Statement of Recommended Practice 2006*, the "SORP".

In accordance with the SORP the Police Pensions top up grant received from the Home Office was not accounted for as income in the Income and Expenditure Account. The top up grant was only shown in the Pension Fund Account.

The Police Pension Fund Regulations 2007 which came into force on the 1st August 2007 stated that the top up grant received from the Home Office should be accounted for in the Income and Expenditure Account of the Police Authority. This clearly was in conflict with the SORP.

Amendment to draft Statement of Accounts

Following discussion with the Wales Audit Office, it had been decided at this late stage to amend the draft Statement of Accounts.

The net effect on the Income and Expenditure was a decrease in the deficit of £956,000 i.e. the top up grant required from the Home Office in 2006/07 to balance the Pension Fund Account to zero.

This amendment had been made to the accounts which would be presented to Members at the Audit Committee meeting on 28th September 2007. At this meeting Members would be asked to confirm their agreement to the amendment being made along with the

content of the ISA 260 report.

Once certified the revised Statement of Accounts would be provided to the Police Authority for information.

Report on the Formula Review for 2008/09

Police Formula Funding Consultation

The Department of Communities and Local Government published a consultation paper setting out options for changes to grant distribution formulae from 2008-09. The Police element of the formula changes was built upon work that was undertaken by the Police Formula Allocation Working Group and this was based on the need to “fine tune” the formula rather than undertake a fundamental review.

For the policing formula, there were three main options for change being presented. The first (POL1) suggested updating the Formula for the latest activity based costing information for the Police Service. The second proposal (POL 2) was to roll certain specific grants into the main formula mechanism. The grants involved were the Rural Policing Fund (£30M), Forensic Grant (£45.6M), the Special Priority Payments Grant (£69.M) and the London / SE Allowance Grant (£47.9M). The third proposal involved rolling allocations of grant given under the Crime Fighting Fund (£277M) into the main formula.

Although historically floors and ceiling arrangements would have protected Forces from the immediate implications of these changes, the consultation included a proposal to taper floors and ceiling arrangements out over the three years of the comprehensive review. Dyfed Powys Police currently received £4.545 million as floor funding support. The impact on Welsh Forces compared to 2007-8 settlements **in addition** to any floors and ceilings adjustments would be as follows:

Force	POL1 Costing Data (£M)	POL2 Rule 2 Grants (£M)	POL3 – Rule 2 Grants + CFF (£M)
Dyfed Powys	-1.085	-2.014	-2.274
Gwent	0.398	0.691	1.242
North Wales	-0.675	-1.124	-1.282
South Wales	1.044	2.036	4.138
Total (£M)	-0.318	-0.411	1.824


Clearly the table above showed that South Wales and Gwent Police Forces would be gainers under all of the proposed changes whilst Dyfed Powys and North Wales would lose out. The impact of the changes on 2008/9 settlements was likely to be of a similar degree of magnitude and clearly the continued future operation of floors and ceilings was critical for North Wales and Dyfed Powys Police Authorities for the budget round for 2008/9 and indeed the CSR 2007 period. In fact Dyfed Powys was amongst the 10 biggest losers in percentage terms in all of the proposals being put forward for consultation and there was deep concern that an exercise of “fine tuning” the formula could result in such extreme results for this Authority.

The timescales for responses to the consultation were fairly tight with responses needing to be returned to the Department of Communities and Local Government by the 10th October 2007. In relation to this Force’s response it was planned to include the following points:

- General Support updating the formula for the latest Activity Based **Costing information**
- Deep concern over proposals to **taper out floor funding** support over 3 years and concern over a lack of detail in relation to how this would be achieved in practice
- General Support for rolling **Specific Grants** into the formula in terms of increasing freedoms and local accountability
- A firm belief that any proposals to roll **Rural Grant** into the formula should be treated separately and considered only as part of a fundamental review of the formula. This element of funding was introduced outside the formula based upon research conducted by consultants in 1998/9. This research showed that the formula did not adequately reflect the additional costs involved in providing policing services to geographically large and sparse areas. There were no proposals included as to how the formula should be updated to reflect these additional costs in the absence of paying rural grant. The proposals to roll this grant into the formula which were considered in previous years included a provision to increase the sparsity factor to compensate for any loss in funding overall for Rural Forces and similar arrangements should apply in this case.
- General concern that a major **fundamental review** of the formula had not been considered as part of CSR 2007. This was required urgently to consider the following factors:
 - Technical issues and concerns over the use of **logarithm scales** as indicators of workloads e.g. log of bars / log of overcrowded households and log of population sparsity (negative factor)
 - Concern over the use of log of bars **per hectare** (not population) as a workload indicator in many of the workload areas which discriminated unfairly against geographically larger Forces in favour of smaller ones
 - Lack of the inclusion of relevant factors to reflect comparative **performance** levels and impact on Crime levels / workload and indeed the use of a performance measure i.e. **fear of crime** as a means of allocating more resources to poorer performing Forces
 - To address concerns over whether the latest available comparable **Welsh data** was being used
 - To incorporate funding requirements arising from the need for each Force to provide **protective services** to National Standards
 - Review of the **Area Cost Adjustment** and use of **day visitors**

Members of the Authority expressed grave concern at the potential devastating loss of floor grants from the funding base and agreed with officers that any proposals to roll out rural grants should be handled very carefully and that a major review of the funding formula would be a better option. Members also felt that MPs and AMs should be made aware of the Authority's concerns. The Director of Finance and Resources advised that Cumbria Police Authority (who were part of the rural police family) had commissioned consultants to review the position and that Dyfed Powys had subscribed to that review.

	<p>The Acting Chief Executive commented that it was important that the decision makers should also be looking at the bigger picture in respect of what money will come into Wales for policing as a whole. It was, therefore, vital for all four Police Authorities in Wales and the Welsh Assembly Government to work in concert on this issue.</p> <p>Councillor J T Davies undertook to highlight the concerns at the meeting of the National Assembly's Local Government Consultative Finance Forum on 4th October and suggested that he and the Police Authorities of Wales representative should be briefed prior to that meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be received. 2. That the Audit Committee be granted delegated authority to approve the revised Statement of Accounts. 3. That in order to provide a response to the Department of Communities and Local Government in respect of the Police Formula Funding consultation, a return be prepared by the Treasurer and Director of Finance and Resources in consultation with the Chair of the Finance, Resources and Information Management Committee, outlining the concerns in the report. 4. That meetings be arranged between MPs, AMs, Authority and Force representatives to emphasise to the politicians the potential gravity of the Government's proposals in relation to rural police funding, particularly in light of the Comprehensive Spending Review. 5. That Members receive an update on the outcome of the consultation on the Police Formula Funding. 	T/DFR
51.	<p><u>CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT</u></p> <p>The Deputy Chief Constable presented the Chief Constable's Report for the period 1st June to 31st August 2007 (pages 63 to 75).</p> <p>DCC Taylor highlighted the overall decrease in crime of 12.4% and increase in sanction detections of 1% in comparison to the same period in 2006, placing Dyfed Powys in one of the highest performing forces in England and Wales.</p> <p>Members noted various initiatives in relation to tackling and preventing crime.</p> <p>Members asked that with the increase in female officers, the changing facilities in Police Authority buildings are monitored to ensure they are appropriate and adequate.</p> <p>Members commended officers for their sensitive handling of the incident at the Skada Vale Religious Community.</p> <p>Members commented that the value of Police Community Support Officers was understated and particular reference was made to a presentation to Llanilar Community Council by a local PCSO on community policing.</p>	

	<p>Members noted that Pembrokeshire Division had been successful in securing funding for an all-terrain vehicle with CCTV capability which would be a valuable asset to the Force.</p> <p>DCC Taylor undertook to pass Members' comments to the relevant officers.</p> <p>DCC Taylor answered questions in relation to roads policing and the areas for improvement that had been actioned following the best value review. The Force was currently monitoring the impact on resilience when officers were required to transport persons arrested to custody. With regard to the relocation of the Helicopter Support Unit (HSU), Members were advised that the Force was currently discussing a long term lease with the land owner whilst undertaking ground surveys and would soon be in a position to appoint a design consultant with a view to completion of the project eighteen months from the start of the construction. In response to a question from Mr Gray in relation to the costs of the relocation of the HSU, the Director of Finance and Resources undertook to convene a meeting of the HSU Project Board in the near future, when this issue could be considered.</p> <p>Professor I Roffe commented as a new Member that the Chief Constable's report did not highlight any weaknesses (e.g. staff shortages within the Human Resources Department) from the HMIC base line assessment and suggested that any weaknesses that the Authority should be made aware of should be included in the Chief Constable's report. These comments were supported by Dr. C Stock who asked what penalties were in existence for the inadequate delivery of Airwave. Members were advised that this issue was currently being pursued by the National Police Intelligence Agency and regional groups.</p> <p>New Members were very grateful for the induction to the force facilitated by the Chief Constable in August.</p>	DFR
52.	<p><u>POLICE AUTHORITIES OF WALES</u></p> <p>The Authority considered the Minutes of the Police Authorities of Wales meeting held on 13th July 2007.</p> <p> C:\Documents and Settings\50222\My D</p> <p>The Acting Chief Executive stated that this was the first meeting of PAW as a statutory body and was a milestone in the governance of policing in Wales. As detailed in Minute 31.1 of the minutes, a report was presented to the meeting in respect of the long term goals for policing in Wales. In order to assist with the debate, it was recommended that individual police authorities should consider what they perceived to be the long term objectives and for these to be presented to PAW via their individual representatives. There would need to be an agreed business case which would focus on standardising services and collaboration with a fair and equitable funding solution throughout Wales. This would undoubtedly lead to discussions surrounding devolved policing.</p>	

	<p>The Acting Chief Executive stated that the scrutiny of PAW would take place through police authorities who would hold their representatives to account for decisions made. He added that a Dyfed Powys representative would be the next Chair of PAW for 2009-11 and that Mr Kenwright had agreed to act as Vice-Chair for 2007-09. The new Executive Officer of PAW was Shelley Bosson, the Chief Executive of Gwent Police Authority.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">That the report be received.</p>	
53.	<p><u>SUMMARY OF MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE</u></p> <p>The Treasurer presented a summary of Members' attendance record for 2006/07. Mrs Wilding reported that a Freedom of Information request had been received with regard to Members Allowances and Expenses. A copy of this report would be sent to Members in the first instance for verification. The information would then be presented to the Authority.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">That the summary of Members' Attendance be received, subject to minor amendments from Members.</p>	
54.	<p><u>EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 to the Act.</p>	
55.	<p><u>TENDER FOR FORENSIC MEDICAL SERVICES</u></p> <p>The Director of Finance and Resources presented a report on behalf of the Chief Constable following on from previous reports that had been submitted to the Authority surrounding the contracting of forensic physician (police surgeon) services. The Force had committed to a regional tender for the provision of this service and the process had now been completed. Members were appraised of the detailed tender process that had taken place and the site visits to confirm the contractor's ability to deliver.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Authority approves Primecare Forensic Medical as the preferred provider for forensic medical services to the Force. 2. That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Constable to award the contract initially for a period of twelve months. 	

The meeting continued in open session

56.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Northern Rock Building Society

The Director of Finance and Resources referred to recent press reports concerning Northern Rock. The Director stated that the Authority currently held £3 million worth of investments with the Building Society. The Director had been reassured that the problems were short term and that investments would not be affected. The worse case scenario would be for Northern Rock to be taken over by another Bank. Members noted the information and were reassured that the Authority's investments in Northern Rock Building Society were likely to be safe.

(b) Mr Bob Jones, Chair of the APA

Mr Jones thanked Members for the invitation to attend a meeting of the Dyfed Powys Police Authority and for the Authority's contribution to the work of the APA. He also thanked the Chief Constable for his contribution to the Children and Young People policy development. Mr Jones referred to various matters currently affecting police authorities, in particular the interim Review of Policing by Sir Ronnie Flanagan which was presented to the Home Secretary on 12th September. The Review focussed on four areas of particular importance which had potential to deliver key improvements to the delivery of policing in the coming years, namely reducing bureaucracy; mainstreaming neighbourhood policing; making the most effective use of resources and enhancing local accountability. Issues relating to police authorities would be published in the final report later this year. Mr Jones also referred to the review of the APA currently taking place and stated that police authorities would be consulted as part of the process. He commended the Police Authorities in Wales for leading the way in terms of governance and collaboration in counter terrorism and protective services. Mr Jones also made reference to the Comprehensive Spending Review. It was expected that there would be difficult times ahead, financially, for all authorities. The APA was pressing on with reviewing the position of Independent Members, but were still awaiting the Statutory Instrument. Authorities would hopefully receive information in the near future. In thanking Mr Jones for his attendance at the meeting, the Chair encouraged Members to speak individually to Mr Jones following the meeting.

(c) Christmas Dinner

The Chairman thanked Mrs Delyth Humfries for arranging this year's Christmas Dinner which would be held at the Falcoln Hotel, Carmarthen. In order that Members could be seated on time, it was agreed that Standing Orders should be waived to allow for the Police Authority meeting in December to be held at 10.30 a.m.

(d) Presentation to DCC Barry Taylor

The Chairman presented DCC Barry Taylor with a gift from the Police Authority Members and Staff on his retirement from the Force. The Chairman thanked DCC Taylor for the contribution he had made to policing in Dyfed Powys, concluding a varied and distinguished career as a police officer. Members and Staff joined the Chairman in wishing DCC Taylor every happiness and success in the future.

DCC Taylor responded by thanking Members and Staff of the Authority for their gift. He reflected on a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding career which had provided him

	<p>with many varied and interesting life experiences. He stated that he had developed a great affection for the area and expressed his gratitude for being given the opportunity to serve the communities of Dyfed Powys. He commented on the good working relationship between the force and authority and the support of the communities in contributing to one of the highest performing forces in the country. He stated that he was leaving a force that everybody in the area should be proud of.</p>	
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The meeting ended at 1.15 p.m.

Chief Constable's Report

June 1st 2007 – August 31st 2007

Meeting of the
Dyfed-Powys Police Authority

Monday 17th September 2007

Media Resource Centre, Llandrindod Wells, Powys

PURPOSE

This paper summarises the main points on the Force's performance for the period of June 1st 2007 to August 31st 2007. The commentary on Force performance is based on the summary data attached at *Appendix A*.

PERFORMANCE AGAINST LOCAL POLICING PLAN TARGETS 2007-08

General Crime Details

The period April to August 2007 (latest data available) saw a decrease in overall crime of 1,697 offences, a 12.4% fall in comparison with the same period in 2006. The sanction detection rate has increased despite reductions in the volume of crime and stands at 42%, an increase of 1% from last year.

With regards to key Statutory Performance Indicators, total violent crime fell by 25% or 989 offences to stand at 2,959 crimes. The sanction detection rate for total violent crime stood at 57% (unchanged from last year).

Domestic burglaries have risen by 18% (+61 crimes) to stand at 400 offences compared with 389 last year. Detection performance has decreased, with the sanction detection rate standing at 22% of offences compared with 28% last year.

The increase in vehicle crimes of 4% equates to 32 more offences, standing at a total of 880 for the period. The level of detection performance has increased to stand at 23% compared with 18% last year.

The scourge of drugs and more particularly Class A drugs is an issue that has been of interest to members. The number of offenders arrested for the supply of Class A drugs from April to August 2007 rose to 77 compared with 52 for the same period last year. The number arrested for the supply of cocaine is up to 25 (21 last year), with a further 32 arrested for the supply of heroin.

Roads Policing and Patrol

Members will recall that reducing the number of serious and fatal road traffic collisions remains a priority. The total number of collisions resulting in death or serious injury between April and June (latest provisional data available) stands at 78, an increase of 5 or 7% on last year. This is also reflected in an 18% increase in fatal and seriously injured casualties from these collisions. There were 10 fatal accidents compared to 11 in the previous year.

The percentage of emergencies responded to within the Authority's 20-minute target stood at 87% for the period April 2006 to August 2006 (compared with 88% for the same period last year).

The overall satisfaction with the police increased from 82% to 86% for the period April – June 2007 compared with the previous year. Similarly 85% were satisfied with the action taken by the police and 94% were satisfied with the way they were treated by police officers and staff. These figures are an increase on the previous year.

Domestic Violence

Total levels of domestic violence stood at 1,388 for the period April 2007 - August 2007 (or 2.7 per 1,000 population). This equates to a 21% decrease (366 incidents) on the same period last year.

The percentage of domestic violence incidents where an arrest was made stands at 48%, consistent with the target measure of 47%. The proportion of victims who had been a victim in the preceding 12 months (excluding the first incident in which they were involved) stands at 20.9%. This is down from 21.4% for the same period last year.

Although the reduction in repeat victimisation is encouraging, the vast majority of arrests remain those involving partner on partner violence, 85% of arrests between April and August 2007 compared with 91% for the same point last year.

Racist Incidents

The number of racist incidents fell by 28% for the period April to August from 105 in 2006 to 76 in 2007. Across the Force between April and August 2007, 57 racially aggravated crimes were recorded (down by 34% or 30 offences) and of these, 60% were detected.

Complaints

For the period April-July 2007 (latest available) a total of 139 complaints were recorded (or 116 per 1,000 officers), a decrease of 21% compared to the previous year. The total number of finalised complaints increased to 122 (from 83 for the same period last year) of which 6% were substantiated (7 complaints) compared with 1% (1 complaint) for the same period last year.

Personnel Matters

The proportion of overall Force strength that is female (June 2007 – latest) was approximately one in five officers (22.6%), an increase on the 21.4% recorded last year. The number of officers from a black minority ethnic background increased to 9 officers (with a further one on secondment).

Levels of recorded sickness days per officer equates to 2.29 days lost per officer for the period April 2007 - June 2007 (latest) – up from 1.68 days per officer the previous year. This equates to 4.2% of all total contracted hours lost to sickness.

Similarly, the recorded police staff sickness is up from 2.16 to 2.31 days lost per police staff – this equates to 4.2% of all total contracted hours lost to sickness.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Police Officer Recruitment

The Force recruited 10 new recruits in June. These new recruits were made up of 7 male officers and 3 female officers. Female representation in the force continues to increase and is currently at the highest level it has ever been. This figure is likely to increase again significantly over the course of the next twelve months, with 26 out of 48 successful applicants at the National Police SEARCH Assessment Centre being female. This means our female representation of new officers in the coming twelve months will be 54%, one of the highest female percentages nationwide.

PCSO Recruitment

It was pleasing to see that 9 of our existing PCSOs were successful in the National Police SEARCH Assessment Centre for Police Officers, and are due to commence their new roles in the coming twelve months. 7 of these officers will commence their duties as Police Officers on 24th September 2007, with the remaining two scheduled to start in March 2008. All 7 PCSOs commencing in September, will be replaced by new PCSOs who have been successful in the National PCSO Recruitment Process.

Special Constabulary

Over the past three months the Force has had one Special Constable intake, consisting of 8 new recruits. These officers were made up of 5 males and 3 females. Although the force has seen its Special Constabulary reduce from 198 to 190 during the past three months, it is pleasing to note that many of these are developing into being regular officers with the force. The other reduction in officers is attributed to the work being carried out by the Specials Co-ordinator and staff on BCUs, who are monitoring attendance of our Specials Constables in accordance with National Guidelines and their Terms and Conditions of Service. As such many of the Special Constables who have not turned out for duty for some time have been taken off our establishment.

Transferee Recruitment

The force carried out a recruitment process, during July, to address the urgent need to increase the establishment deficiencies in Ceredigion division. All applicants who responded to this advert have now been processed through the Recruitment and Selection, with a view to commence duties in October 2007.

30+ Retention Scheme

The Force currently has 6 officers on the 30+ scheme, with a further 3 officers having recently submitted applications with a view to joining the scheme later this year.

EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNALS

Basis of Employment Tribunals	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Sex Discrimination	0	0	2	2	0	1
Unfair Dismissal	0	1	0	0	0	0
Victimisation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disability Discrimination	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	0	1	2	2	0	2

INTERNAL GRIEVANCES

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Gender	0	1	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity/Race	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Religion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Welsh Language	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Orientation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	10	4	5	4	5	7
Total	11	5	5	4	5	7

Absence Management

April – June 2007	Force	Carmarthenshire	Ceredigion	Pembrokeshire	Powys	HQ
Number of Police Officer Sickness Days	2694	908	501	453	639	193
Number of Police Officers (FTE)	1172	344.8	150.2	239.1	259.5	178.4
Indicator – Days Lost Per Officer	2.29	2.63	3.33	1.89	2.46	1.08
On Target (Q1 2.0 days)	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Number of Police Staff Sickness Days	1715	203	99	192	133	1088
Number of Police Staff (FTE)	717.2	97.9	48	74.5	72	424.8
Indicator – Days Lost Per Police Staff	2.39	2.07	2.06	2.57	1.84	2.56
On Target (Q1 2.25 days)	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO

<u>July 2007</u>	<u>Force</u>	<u>Carmarthenshire</u>	<u>Ceredigion</u>	<u>Pembrokeshire</u>	<u>Powys</u>	<u>HQ</u>
Number of Police Officer Sickness Days	1514	493	201	366	315	139
Number of Police Officers	1172	344.8	150.2	239.1	259.5	178.4
Indicator – Days Lost Per Officer	1.29	1.42	1.33	1.53	1.21	0.77
On Target (0.66 days)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Number of Police Staff Sickness Days	954	136	114	97	33	574
Number of Police Staff	722.9	97.8	49	77.1	72	427
Indicator – Days Lost Per Police Staff	1.31	1.39	2.32	1.25	0.45	1.34
On Target (0.75 days)	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO

Costings

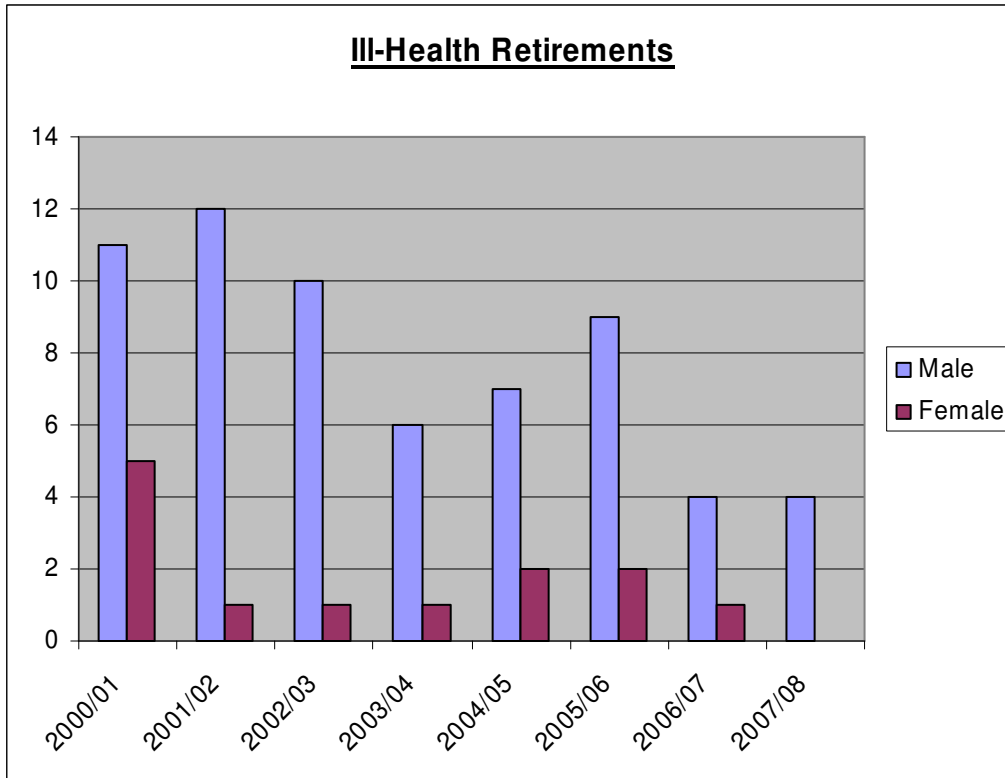
The below table gives an indication of the estimated cost of staff time lost through sickness for the month of July 2007.

Police Officers	£173,988.76
Police Staff	£55,888.55
TOTAL	£229,877.31

Ill-Health Retirements

Ill-Health Retirements	Male	Female	Total
2000/01	11	5	16
2001/02	12	1	13
2002/03	10	1	11
2003/04	6	1	7
2004/05	7	2	9
2005/06	9	2	11
2006/07	4	1	5
2007/08	4	0	4

The following graph shows the number of ill health retirements for Police Officers in Dyfed-Powys Police over the last 8 years.



LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Neighbourhood Policing

150 members of the service consisting of Police Officers, PCSOs and members of Carmarthenshire County Council (Neighbourhood Wardens and Environmental Health Officers) attended an ongoing programme of training in Neighbourhood management which will result in an Introductory Certificate in Neighbourhood management with the Chartered management Institute.

Special Constabulary

Training continued with 8 Special Constables being trained and were attested in July, at the end of their respective 6 weekends of training, they are now active on Division and undertaking tasks with additional training on a rolling programme presented by PDU Staff. A further course of 8 Special Constables commenced training in July.

General Training

The first course was delivered covering the area of Hate Crime and training was also delivered in the area of Domestic Abuse. Training was delivered to those Officers who were successful in passing the OSPRE Examination to Inspector to prepare them for part two. This course is annual and so successful that South Wales Officers were keen to access places.

Training was conducted on the HOLMES/Casualty Bureau System Internet based CASWEB, for staff who will be available for deployment should the need arise in this Force or as an assistance to any other force requesting it.

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE (INCLUDING FORCE OPERATIONS ROOM)

Performance

Call handling from April to July 2007 received a total of 163,947 calls. Immediate response rates for the force averaged at 88% of calls responded to within 20 minutes. The abandonment rate for public calls was 11%.

Training

A female awareness input has taken place and 25 women officers attended over two one day periods. From the officers that attended two have been successful in an assessment period and have been offered places on the Initial course to be run in Sept 2007.

NCPE/NFPTC Issues

Following the ACPO amendments to the Taser Policy the force policy has now been finalised and awaits Human Rights compliance approval from Legal Services.

Progress continues to be made in compilation of the NCPE submission and the other evidence portfolios.

SAFETY CAMERA PARTNERSHIP

Safety Camera Partnership Future

Time spent on enforcement is set by The Department for Transport as targets for each whole Partnership to achieve.

Currently, Dyfed Powys Region is enforcing below the performance indicator on core sites, while the Safety Camera Partnership as a whole is enforcing above the performance indicator, thereby complying with the Department for Transport targets.

Once the two Dyfed Powys Speed Reduction Officers are in place (as below) and the site portfolio review is complete, Dyfed Powys Region will strive towards achieving a balanced enforcement split between core and community concern sites.

HELICOPTER SUPPORT UNIT

Relocation

The tender process for the appointment of providers of multi-disciplinary professional services is now complete and White, Young and Green has been appointed for the contract.

The land survey has been undertaken and contracts are currently being drawn up prior to a design team being given the go ahead to proceed.

Maintenance

The aircraft was taken to Northampton in mid July for its scheduled 400 hour service. It was due to be away for just five days but this was extended to eighteen days as a result of further problems being discovered. Additional concerns included delaminating of rota blades and the discovery of worn out brushes on the main rota head. Delay was caused mainly by the delivery times of parts.

All HSU staff were deployed to ground operations during the recent aircraft absence. Staff assisted all divisions with attendance at the Royal Welsh Show, ANPR initiatives in Carmarthenshire and Powys and proactive work in Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion.

DOG SECTION

The SAM team was deployed once during July/August to other forces, namely to Hertfordshire on Tuesday 7th August to assist with a missing person enquiry. Further deployments were made within force, one of which resulted from an RTC in the North Pembrokeshire area where there was concern for the driver and after two hours a trail resulted in a male being apprehended, sleeping in undergrowth who was intoxicated and arrested but otherwise well.

The loss of a Dog Section Officer last month has affected the ability of the section to respond to GP and Drug Searches, which can be seen in the percentage of Drugs requests resourced. This Officer's position has now been advertised, however, the application/selection process and following Basic Course will mean that this position is not filled until the end of the year.

COLLISION INVESTIGATION AND ROADS POLICING

During July the department attended a total of 14 scenes of which 3 were fatal crashes with 3 deaths. This was a decrease of 2 collision and 3 deaths compared to July 2006. Of the 3 deaths, 1 was a motorcyclist a reduction on 3 compared with July 2006.

To date there have been 23 collisions and 26 deaths for the calendar year 2007 an increase of 3 deaths compared to the same period in 2006, and 13 fatal collisions with 15 deaths for the fiscal year 2007/08, a decrease of 1 death compared with 2006/07.

Officers from HQ Operations attended the Royal Welsh Show along with partner agents under the guise of Bikesafe where members of the public were given the opportunity to discuss issues surrounding motorcycles.

Operation Darwin, a campaign aimed at addressing the anti-social use of motorcycles continues to be held in both Powys and Carmarthenshire.

Operation Bus was held between July 23rd and 29th, an operation aimed at addressing poorly maintained coach and buses.

July 20th saw the launch of the ACPO drink drive campaign that ran through to August 30th.

AIRWAVE

Performance has continued to deteriorate through July and the trend in August was similar, the force seeing a rise in the number of faults together with lengthening outages. This is down to the poor BT ground based network that Airwave operates upon. The Force together with other Welsh forces have asked for a specific improvement plan for Wales to be created to address the issues. Some of the extended outage hours are attributed to poor diagnostics by BT engineers and a scarcity of engineers.

The build of the Tenby Airwave mast was due to have started on Monday 20th August but for some reason this did not take place. The indication now is that mast commissioning will take place in October 2007. Headquarters staff have attended at Tenby Police Station and provided refresher training on the use of the 'gateway' and to remind officers of where the areas of difficulties are drawing their attention to the Operational Guidance on the Force Intranet.

The Bronze Radio equipment has been installed around the force area in line with that outlined in the tri-service agreement.

The force is about to carry out its first major upgrade to all Sepura terminals. This will include an agreed All Wales radio profile. The other three Welsh forces will follow with the intention to

have a common radio profile across Wales by early 2008. This will aid future interoperability in the management and running of cross border and mutual aid incidents.

The remainder of the Airwave project issues are as follows:

- Generation 2 Radio (Helicopter) – equipment installed waiting for network issues to be resolved.
- Digital Alarms replacement – Roll out is proceeding on time.
- Intrinsically Safe Radios – a radio has now been produced and has received necessary approval. Force requirement has been scoped. Enquiries being made with other forces to collaborate on procurement to attract ‘price break’.
- Acquisition and fit out of covert equipment – proceeding to plan.

DIVISIONAL MATTERS

CARMARTHENSHIRE

Exceptional Bravery

The arrest of a man who threatened officers and killed a police dog with a scythe resulted in six Dyfed-Powys police officers being voted the bravest cops in Wales. Andy Edwards, Mike Calas, Lyn Evans, Ian Davies, Adam Hearne and Simon Williams clinched the award at the 12th annual Police Bravery Awards held at the Dorchester Hotel, London, on 12th July in the presence of Prince Charles and a host of celebrities. Organised by the Police Federation of England and Wales in partnership with the Sun newspaper, the glittering awards ceremony followed a reception at 10 Downing Street with sixty-six other nominees.

Answering a call to a remote farm in Carmarthenshire following an earlier disturbance, officers were confronted with a man who charged at them with a tractor with a spike mounted on the front. The farmer then used the tractor armed with the front-end spike to lift and overturn police cars and then barricaded himself in his property. The electricity supply to the property was cut, resulting in the man emerging from a farm shed many hours later. The man, who was later found to be suffering from schizophrenia, attacked four unarmed firearms officers and two dog handlers with a three-foot scythe and at this stage Bryn the police dog was fatally wounded as he acted to defend his master.

‘Bryn’ was the first dog to be killed in action with the Dyfed-Powys force. The dog prevented the offender striking Constable Davies and together the officers managed to restrain and arrest him. Chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales, Jan Berry, said: "All these officers deserve the highest praise for tackling an individual suffering from a severe mental illness. These officers were determined to apprehend this highly volatile individual. They all risked their lives to protect the public from this man. His actions cost the life of a police dog, but it could have been far worse. They demonstrated exceptional bravery and are a credit to the police service."

Protests at Skanda Vale

Police officers were called to assist the Welsh Assembly Government and Animal Health officers to remove a bullock that had tested positive for Bovine TB. After a high profile legal challenge police officers acted successfully to break up a vigil at a Carmarthenshire temple after monks and about one hundred protesters gathered to protect ‘Shambo’ the bullock. Worshippers at the Hindu temple at the Skanda Vale religious community surrounded the sacred animal to stop officials putting him down. The bull had tested positive for TB and WAG officials ordered it to be destroyed to prevent the infection spreading. However religious leaders at Skanda Vale, near Llanpumsaint, mounted a legal bid to save him and when that failed they formed a human chain round the bull. Police removed worshippers and bolt cutters had to be used by Assembly officials to open Shambo's stall to enable the animal to be removed. Police actions were effective and well

measured; as one of worshippers reflected: "It's bad, but I don't blame the police because they were friendly and they did their duty."

Four weeks after the initial operation police were called to assist in a similar operation to remove a further two animals, and on this occasion there was no protest.

Operation Darwen – High Speeding Motorcycles

Since the introduction of the Carmarthenshire Roads Policing and Automatic Number Plate Reader Targeting Unit, officers have carried out speed enforcement in the Llandovery area on weekends under the umbrella of Operation Darwen. This Campaign has been led by Operations Department, HQ as a result of the increasing number of fatal/serious motorcycle collisions in the force area and numerous complaints from force residents. To date over 40 motorcyclists have been reported for speeding offences with speeds ranging from 94mph to 132mph the majority being recorded at over 100mph. The first "batch" of court cases has now been heard.

Results to date have been:

- 10 cyclists disqualified for up to 65 days with fines ranging from £375 to £4652.
- 2 cyclists received 6 points endorsement and £250 fine.

Park Mark (Safer Car Parks)

Carmarthenshire now has three Safer Car Parks, namely Park Trostre and Prince Phillip Hospital, both in Llanelli, and West Wales General Hospital in Carmarthen. The Park Mark® Safer Parking award is granted to parking areas that meet the requirements of a risk assessment conducted by the Force Assessor. The requirements placed on parking operators consist of measures designed to deter criminal activity and anti social behaviour; and have the effect of preventing crime and the fear of crime.

There is evidence of success, and it is envisaged that further organisations and car park operators within the Force area will join the scheme. This initiative is much needed as vehicle crime accounts for a high percentage of all crime (up to 20%), and it is estimated that 22% of vehicle crime occurs in parking areas.

Neighbourhood Policing

Carmarthen Neighbourhood Policing Team organised a visit to the Helicopter Support Unit at Police Headquarters for the Charity Group, Breakthro. The morning visit was facilitated by PCSOs Cath John and Bethan Hodgkinson, and the aim was to provide respite care for parents and carers and also to provide enjoyment for the children.

'Breakthro' is managed by a small committee of parents and supporters, some of whom have special needs children, which means those involved have an understanding of what it is like for families needing support. The committee employs qualified staff and experienced volunteers to run sessions.

Crack Down on Bike Crime

Recently eighteen bicycles have been reported stolen from Carmarthen town, many from the owners' gardens. Sergeant Linda Elias has been involved in the Police response, Operation Penny Farthing, designed to tackle the problem. Officers on patrol will be watching out for unsecured bikes and will provide crime prevention advice to owners.

Police are also organising a cycle marking and registration workshop in the next month, inviting residents to bring in their bikes to be security marked.

Calling Time on Drug Misuse and Violent Crime

A Drug testing machine was used for the first time in Carmarthen over the Bank Holiday weekend as part of a clampdown on illegal drug use at night time venues.

Carmarthen Police joined forces with nightclub owners to take a zero tolerance approach to the problem that has strong links to violent crime. A Drug Itemiser machine was used to test revellers before they entered certain premises. The machine, already used with great success by colleagues in Swansea, has the capability to assess whether someone has been in close contact with illegal substances.

Those who entered the licensed premises as a condition of entry subjected themselves to a hand swab. A number of tests were carried out with twenty persons being recorded by the machine as having tested positive. These had been in recent contact with controlled drugs. All those who tested positive were required to submit to searches by search team officers. Substances found on persons were seized and offences were recorded as appropriate. Swansea Police officers worked with the Carmarthen officers in demonstrating the effectiveness of the machine.

Owners of two of the three nightclubs in Carmarthen Town gave their full cooperation to the initiative. Both operate a zero drugs tolerance policy at their premises. Similarly, the licensee of another premises signed up to the use of the Itemiser machine.

Carmarthen Town Inspector Peter Roderick said: "I am enthused by the positive approach of the licensees who have fully supported the initiative. I will be looking for the support of other licensees to show their commitment to challenging those persons who deal and use illicit drugs in the town. To say that drug supply and use does not occur in licensed premises in Carmarthen is not a true picture of the reality of the situation. We are not naive enough to think this".

Operation Mint

Carmarthen Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) regularly targets vehicles driven at excessive speed under Operation Mint. Speed checks are carried out at various locations, providing a visible response to priorities identified by the community.

The operations have been successful in that the visible presence of the officers at selected locations not only reduces the speed of the vehicles but also reassures the community that the NPT are pro-active in managing priorities raised.

Crime Tip-Off Boxes Launched

Police boxes allowing people to secretly tip off officers about crime are being set up in three Llanelli communities. The idea is that people can inform the force about incidents without having to be identified. The boxes are being introduced at Post Offices in Felinfoel, Swiss Valley and Dafen. The project is part of a pilot scheme by the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The initiative is already up and running in some parts of Llanelli town centre. Constable Lucy Bennett said, "The scheme has been quite successful in the town centre and we hope it will take off here."

Biking the Beat

Llanelli police are going back to basics with the introduction of a traditional Bobby Bike. Constable Lucy Bennett said: "the bike was proving popular with residents. People feel as though they can approach officers more easily when they are on the bike. Officers can get to areas quicker in the case of anti-social behaviour or any other problems, avoiding any traffic. One of the problems we have at the moment is the anti-social use of off road quad bikes and scooters. Hopefully, by being able to use the cycle track more with the bike, we can get to the areas where the vehicles are used and stamp out the problem.

Police Community Support Officer Gets Invite to Number 10 Downing Street

John Hill, a Llanelli PCSO covering the Tyisha Ward of Llanelli Town, attended a reception in Downing Street in May hosted by the then Prime Minister, Tony Blair, to recognise hard working and dedicated public sector workers who had made a difference to their areas in the last ten years.

John was nominated by Dyfed-Powys Police in recognition of the work he has carried out in his beat area. Inspector Dyfed Bolton from Llanelli's Neighbourhood Policing Team said:

"John is a highly valued member of the Tyisha Community. He is totally dedicated to his beat and provides an excellent service to the community providing advice, reassurance and tackling those issues that affect every day life such as anti-social behaviour, litter and noise nuisance. He has made a base for himself in the heart of the community at Clos Sant Paul working closely with his dedicated police officer PC Tony Thomas, the local authority and Communities First providing a visible and accessible point of contact for the community. I am pleased that John's dedication has been recognised. It is thoroughly deserved"

John recently made a presentation at the Liberty Stadium, together with Mark Westcott from Carmarthenshire County Council, to other forces in England and Wales, highlighting initiatives taking place in the Tyisha area.

John said "it was an honour to be nominated by the (Dyfed Powys) Force to attend such an event. To be recognised for my work, doing a job that I enjoy, makes me even more determined to challenge myself further and 'raise the bar'. Everyday is different and my colleagues are fantastic".

Anti-Social Workshop–Tumble

Youngsters in the Gwendraeth Valley have been talking about the way they behave and made to think about the effect their actions have on others. An anti-social behaviour workshop was held at Tumble Youth Club as part of the Cleaner, Greener, and Safer Streets initiative. The workshop included a discussion on anti-social behaviour and its impact on the community. The workshop was one of a number of activities held during a weeklong blitz in the Gwendraeth.

Tackling Dangerous Driving

The Compulsory Basic Training Course for motorcyclists is being reviewed against concern about its adequacy. PC Vanessa Hearne, who heads Burry Port's Neighbourhood Policing Team, was involved in the seizure of one moped from a Burry Port youngster following reports of his dangerous driving. He had been given a Section 59 warning that if his driving continued to cause a nuisance his vehicle would be seized. When the nuisance continued and his moped was seized, the teenager was extremely shocked but his mother was very supportive of the Police action. Other teenagers and parents were being spoken to and it was hoped that parents would be supportive of any further Police seizures of motorcycles.

Young Offenders – Film

The Community Safety Partnership, involving the Police, Youth Offending Service and Coleg Sir Gar has initiated a project to interview and film young offenders on methods of committing burglary. The film produced will be distributed in the community to raise the awareness of young persons in the community on matters relating to Home Security Preventive measures and reduce their chances of becoming victims of crime. Coleg Sir Gar students will benefit from the project as part of their course work. The project will also encourage young offenders to reflect upon their actions. Those taking part in the production will develop new skills in communication, confidence and motivation to engage in further projects and training.

Street Controls Its Cold Callers

Every household in Derlyn Park, Ammanford, has signed up for the "controlled" no-cold-calling zone. The County Council brought in no-caller zones in 2006. Controlled zones permit visits by some organisations, such as by charitable organisations. A County Council spokesperson said doorstep crime has fallen where uninvited salespeople and itinerant traders are deterred. Signs have gone up on the estate to say trading standards and Dyfed-Powys Police back the scheme. The scheme is voluntary and cold-callers cannot be fined or prosecuted but the area's residents' association have played an active role in the project to keep the doors shut on callers.

The local authority said trials elsewhere have reported an 11% drop in distraction burglary, while people living in the zones have reported feeling an increased level of security. The Derlyn Park controlled zone will be among the first in Wales following pilot schemes for no-caller zones at Llwyn yr Ynys housing complex, Llwynhendy, and Maes Elfryn housing complex, Llandeilo. Signs displaying "No Cold Calling Area" have gone up on lampposts in Derlyn Park and households have stickers to put up in their windows.

Countering Play Area Vandalism

Police are determined to arrest and prosecute those young people responsible for smashed bottles and vandalism in the play areas of Pontyberem, Gorslas and Tumble parks.

Recently, the children's pool in Pontyberem Park was full of broken glass and the Carmarthenshire Council response was to give consideration to not filling the pool. In their continuing zero-tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour, the Neighbourhood Policing Team will be setting up mobile CCTV cameras in the parks and working closely with community wardens, ASBO co-ordinator, and Environmental Health to target the parks during the summer.

OPERATIONAL INCIDENTS

AMMAN & TOWY

Stabbing

On July 21st officers were deployed to Ammanford in response to a drunk male brandishing a Samurai Sword. The subject was located and officers safely engaged him in conversation. Officers maintained verbal and visual contact with the suspect allowing other officers to carry out an effective arrest without harm to any person.

Creepers Burglaries

On July 23rd unknown persons targeted a residential housing estate in Drefach, Llanelli. One dwelling was entered with the occupant an elderly lady asleep in a downstairs bedroom and a selective search made, during which a handbag containing various items was removed. Three additional burglaries on the same estate were also recorded. Following diligent enquires and a search of an area near to the premises involved, a brown leather wallet and other items were located and seized and have been positively identified by one of the victims.

CARMARTHEN RURAL

Disorder

On July 21st a large scale disorder took place in Newcastle Emlyn. Two officers initially attended the scene and requested urgent assistance, two further double crewed cars attended but the disorder continued with further urgent assistance calls being made. Three officers deployed pava on a number of persons, but the disorder continued. During the arrest one male who was handcuffed kicked violently out injuring one officer, fast strap limb restraints were used successfully. Units from Ceredigion and Carmarthen Town also attended. Six persons were initially arrested for offences of violent disorder, assault, assault on police, affray and criminal damage. One male was hospitalised after being knocked unconscious. Further enquiries are ongoing.

LLANELLI TOWN

Wounding

On June 20th, a 65 year-old male was the victim of an unprovoked attack in Llanelli where he received serious injuries following being stabbed in the chest. His condition was described as serious but stable. Police enquiries are continuing.

Stabbing

On July 14th a report was received of a female having been stabbed whilst walking along a lane between Andrew Street and Heol Goffa, Llanelli. It became apparent that the female had been walking along the secluded lane when she was approached from behind by a male brandishing a large kitchen knife. During the incident the victim sustained defence wounds to her hands and lacerations together with a deeper laceration to her side. The victim was conveyed to Morriston Hospital where her injuries were treated. Ten minutes after the incident officers saw a male known to them walking towards Heol Goffa from the direction of the incident. This individual was arrested, and the weapon used in the attack was also recovered.

LLANELLI EAST

Burglary

On June 7th, a burglary was reported at a pharmacy in Llanelli where vast quantities of controlled drugs were stolen. Four persons were later arrested and found in possession of the drugs.

Attempted Arson

On July 27th the licensee of the Red Lion Public House reported an attempted arson at the premises, stating there had been an altercation earlier and that the male responsible had left the pub and returned a short time later. On his return he had bought a can of petrol with him, which he then threw all over the front door of the premises. A member of the public tackled the offender and took a lighter away from him. The offender then ran off prior to police arrival. An extensive search was carried out by officers with the assistance of two dogs. Officers with the assistance of a dog handler located the offenders hiding in a garden. A foot pursuit ensued through gardens and over rooftops. One offender was apprehended on a rooftop whilst a search continued for the second male who was arrested a short time later.

CROWN COURT CASES OF SIGNIFICANCE

Threats to Kill

In March, as a result of a covert operation, Susan Ann Shervill was arrested and charged with soliciting the murder of her husband David Shervill whom she lived with in the Swansea area.

Shervill solicited another to supply her with the drugs in order to that she could poison her husband who suffers from ankylosing spondylitis. Shervill planned the offence and had informed a number of family members that her husband had been considering suicide.

On July 19th at Swansea Crown Court Susan Shervill was found guilty of threats to kill. In summing up Judge John Diehl stated that he had no doubt that at the time Shervill sought to obtain the drugs she intended to kill her husband. This investigation was hampered by the lack of cooperation from Shervill's family. The case received widespread media interest.

On August 6th Susan Shervill received a 12-month prison sentence suspended for 18 months.

Stabbing Incident – Glanamman

On July 23rd at Swansea Crown Court, David Arthur Lake was found guilty and sentenced for the following offences, committed on January 26th:

Count 1 – Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm - guilty 4 years imprisonment.

Count 2 – Unlawful wounding – guilty indictment ordered to remain on file not to be proceeded without leave of the court or court of appeal.

Count 3 – Having an offensive weapon – guilty 12 months imprisonment concurrent.

Supply of Heroin

Raymond John Worgan appeared at Swansea Crown Court on July 31st and admitted supplying heroin for monetary gain every fortnight for the last 4-5 years. He was found in possession of six bags of heroin following his arrest for an offence of shoplifting. He was given a custodial sentence of 3 years and 3 months. A financial investigation is ongoing.

CEREDIGION

NHS Fraud

Police at Cardigan were given a brief by the NHS Fraud department recently in relation to a female tendering suspect prescriptions for controlled drugs. Contact was made with local Chemists in relation to the matter and a call was subsequently received from a local Pharmacy that the female was present and had tendered another prescription. The female was arrested. The female had allegedly used a position of employment to steal over 200 blank prescriptions and identification stamps for two Health Centres. These items were recovered along with other medication, during a section 18 search of the home address. She had used these items to tender 25 prescriptions to various pharmacies in Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire. This enquiry shows the benefit of partnership working and information sharing with other investigative bodies as well as local businesses. The investigation has currently identified some 35 crimes across 3 divisions.

Apprehension of a Prolific Offender

On March 2nd, following a report of a vehicle driving dangerously in Lampeter, officers utilised the ANPR which produced a hit on the offending vehicle as it entered Aberystwyth. The driver was eventually traced and arrested in the Carmarthen area.

Upon his arrest the driver was found to be in possession of a large number of counterfeit Scottish £20 notes. The vehicle was searched and a number of low value items from various shops within Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire were recovered. Throughout the course of the investigation officers dealing with the incident were contacted by SOCA, Wiltshire, West Mercia, North Wales and other divisions within our own force, in relation to the arrested person's offending. The case resulted in:

- 4 charges for offences of passing counterfeit currency
- 3 charges for driving offences including dangerous drive and disqualified driving
- 75 offences taken into consideration (53 within Dyfed Powys, 1 for Wiltshire, 7 for West Mercia and 14 for North Wales).

SOCA is interested in him due to his status within this type of organised crime. The male has pleaded guilty to all counterfeit offences and FIU are currently investigating. The male was sentenced at Swansea Crown court to 2 years imprisonment with a confiscation order of £10,448.36.

Dealing with Anti Social Behaviour and Violence

Dispersal Order

On June 30th the Neighbourhood Policing team from the Penparcau and Llanbadarn areas in Aberystwyth successfully applied for an extension of the Dispersal order for an area of Penparcau which has been an area blighted by anti social behaviour by youths for many years. The dispersal order came into effect on January 1st and since then in conjunction with other work by the team has assisted in drastically reducing instances of anti social behaviour in the area. Initially local councilors were strongly opposed to this tactic but have now recognised its effectiveness, and how life for residents has been improved. The dispersal order will remain in force until December 31st. Throughout the school summer holidays through proactive neighbourhood policing there has been no need to use the dispersal order powers.

Prolific and Persistent Offender

On June 11th police received a call of a burglary in progress in Aberystwyth. A swift response from officers resulted in the early apprehension of a prolific and persistent offender who had fled the scene and was hiding in the garden of nearby properties. The male was already on Licence from prison. He has subsequently been charged with the burglary and remanded.

Aggravated Burglary

Aberystwyth Police responded to a call of a suspected aggravated burglary in the early hours of June 28th. Two females received injuries, when 3 men in balaclavas carrying baseball bats, forced their way into their static caravan home and assaulted them. They were treated at Bronglais Hospital Aberystwyth. One of the defendants was arrested by officers away from the address whilst the second suspect was arrested after an armed stop. An armed cordon was set up around the home of the defendants and the third defendant a juvenile was arrested. The males were interviewed and denied any involvement. They have been charged and remanded for court and the two adults have since pleaded guilty at Crown Court and are awaiting sentence, the Juvenile is pleading not guilty and is awaiting trial.

Tackling the Supply and Use of Drugs

Drug Arrest

On June 11th officers from the Major Crime Support Team stop checked a female from Aberystwyth in Carmarthen. The suspect was found to be in possession of cannabis resin and arrested and following a search, around 35 grams of heroin, 42 grams of amphetamine and a quantity of Valium were also recovered. She was further arrested for Possession with Intent to Supply Class A drugs. She was interviewed and admitted possession with intent to supply the heroin and personal possession of the other drugs.

Cocaine Arrests

On June 16th as a result of calls from door staff at two licensed premises in Aberystwyth a number of people were arrested for possession of cocaine. This is an excellent example of a good working partnership between local licensed door persons, CCTV and police.

Other Offences / Incidents of note

High Risk Misper

On June 28th a neighbourhood policing officer making inquiries into a missing person sighted him on a cliffside in Gwbert Cardigan. The male had been missing for the past 3 weeks and Leicestershire Constabulary had initiated a nationwide search. There were grave concerns for his mental state and the safety of the public.

The incident was concluded successfully some hours later, with armed officers intercepting the male when he moved away from the cliff edge. He was detained under the mental health act and conveyed to Carmarthen Police Station.

International Event - West Wales Airport

Over July 11th and 12th, the Welsh Assembly Government ran an Unmanned Systems flying demonstration at Parc Aberporth, West Wales Airport. The event included live demonstrations of unmanned aerial and ground vehicles and was attended by around 600 delegates from around the world including military guests from Israel, Europe, the USA and Russia. A number of TV stations were reporting on the event and speakers included Oliver Dismore a Police Aviation Advisor with the Home Office. The event proved to be a success and passed without incident.

Licensing

The Ceredigion Licensing Officer attended a Licensing panel at Aberaeron on July 31st. The applicant for a licence was Tafarn Rygbi and Hookers Nitespot, Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn. This application would have taken these premises to 0300 opening hours with 0330 on Bank Holidays. A full police objection was prepared and served and presented to the Panel on the day. In addition to this, 16 public objectors, some of them elderly, appeared and gave evidence to the Panel of the effect this premises was already having on their quality of life. The Panel determination was to reject the application in its entirety. This is a good example of the community, the police and local authority working in partnership for the benefit of local residents' quality of life.

Fire at Ty Hafan, Sheltered Accommodation Aberystwyth

Police were called to the above location in the early hours of July 23rd to a report of a fire in a first floor flat which is a three storey elderly persons sheltered accommodation block. The initial officers at scene assisted the numerous elderly and infirm persons out of the premises which by this time was well ablaze on the first floor. Their professional actions at scene assisted in the rapid evacuation of the property and minimised the likelihood of serious injuries to the occupants. The officers should also be commended for the compassionate way in which they dealt with and assisted all occupants.

Vulnerable Misper/ASBO

On June 25th staff at Bronglais hospital contacted police stating they had received a call from a female with a history of walking into the sea to attempt suicide, stating that she was going to do so once again. She would not state her exact location. As her location was not known night shift officers were deployed to both Aberystwyth and Borth and searches conducted of beach and harbour areas. Coastguard and lifeboat crews turned out at Aberystwyth, one lifeboat was launched and the helicopter was requested. Items belonging to the woman were located on the beach at Aberystwyth near the bottom of Constitution Hill. The lifeboat was searching the area when cries for help were heard from the sea by officers who were on top of Constitution Hill. They directed the lifeboat to the cries and the woman was located in the sea towards Clarach. She was taken to Bronglais hospital suffering from hypothermia. The search involved all night shift staff for several hours as well as 20 coastguard/lifeboat members.

The woman who was subject to an Anti Social Behaviour Order not to enter the sea at Aberystwyth or be found in the Marine Terrace area breached the said order. In the following days after this incident the subject was arrested for this breach and is currently on bail conditions not to go within 50 meters of any shore in the UK. The person's actions over this period cost the emergency services including Police, Fire, Ambulance, HM Coastguard, RNLI and RAF Air/Sea Rescue in the region of £1 million and put a number of persons at risk by her neglectful actions.

Cross Force Working

On July 3rd Merseyside Police reported a suspicious vehicle had been parked at John Lennon airport. The vehicle had been left with items covered by a blanket on the back seat and had been searched externally by explosive dogs, 2 of which had indicated possible explosives. There were reasons to suspect the indications were false but as a result of the raised national alert state they requested enquiries into the registered keeper of the vehicle in order to avoid closure of the airport. Diligent enquiries were made by officers in Lampeter between 1am and 4.20 hrs who ascertained the owner was a male working as a dentist in the area but believed to be on holiday. Merseyside were satisfied that that all possible information had been gleaned and resumed local actions in respect of the vehicle. The Merseyside silver commander was very complimentary of the way officers from the Force performed the discrete enquiries.

PEMBROKESHIRE

Significant Incidents

Serious Assault

On May 3rd an assault occurred in Milford Haven when a local man received serious injuries. He was later transferred to Morriston Hospital, where on the 1st June he died of his injuries. Two men have been arrested in connection with this incident and are currently remanded in custody charged with Murder and Manslaughter and are awaiting trial at the crown court.

Fatal Road Traffic Collision

On May 21st, two vehicles, a Honda motorcycle and a Mercedes 180 were involved in a collision on the A4075 at Crosshands near Martletwy. The rider of the motorcycle died of his injuries.

Burglary

On May 27th a burglary occurred at the Haverfordwest Football Club whereby the offenders forced entry to the clubhouse and adjacent portacabins resulting in substantial damage being caused before making off with monies and a 52 inch plasma TV. A vehicle parked outside was also stolen but was subsequently recovered by Police in a damaged condition. Following Police enquiries 4 persons were arrested in connection with this incident. One of the offenders has been cautioned for his involvement, 2 have been sentenced to a term of imprisonment and the 4th was conditionally discharged.

Class A Drugs Arrest

On May 31st 2 local men were arrested on suspicion of possession and trafficking controlled drugs including heroin. Following extensive enquiries both persons arrested have been charged with possession and possession with intent to supply heroin and are presently remanded on bail awaiting crown court trial.

Fatal Road Traffic Collision

On June 5th a fatal road traffic collision occurred on the unclassified road at lower Freystrop Haverfordwest involving a Suzuki motorcycle and a Ford transit van. The rider of the motorcycle received serious injuries and was conveyed to Withybush hospital where he subsequently died from his injuries.

Threats to Kill

On June 12th Police at Haverfordwest responded to premises near the town centre where they confronted a man in possession of a number of knives. Following extensive enquiries the man was ultimately arrested and has since been charged with Threats to Kill four police officers. He is currently remanded on conditional bail awaiting trial.

Firearms

On June 17th Armed Response Units from Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire were involved in the search and arrest of a man from the Pembroke Dock area believed to be in possession of a shotgun and under the influence of alcohol. He was located and arrested for unlawful possession of a shotgun, assault and driving with excess alcohol. He was charged and given a 2-year conditional discharge at Court.

Class A Drugs Arrest

On June 22nd a man was charged with possession with intent to supply 14 wraps heroin. He is currently on conditional bail awaiting trial.

Attempted Robbery

On July 1st Police responded to an incident in the Milford Haven area when it was established that a man armed with a knife had attempted to steal money from a local taxi driver. The alleged offender was identified and arrested on suspicion of robbery. He has since been charged with the offence and is currently remanded on conditional bail awaiting trial at the crown court.

Serious Assault

On July 1st 2 men were arrested in Haverfordwest following a serious assault resulting in a man requiring hospital treatment. The alleged offenders were ultimately charged with causing grievous bodily harm with intent and are currently awaiting trial at the crown court.

Attempted Murder

On July 17th Police attended to a serious assault in Pembroke Dock. Following enquiries the alleged offender was identified and arrested and has since been charged with attempted murder. He is currently remanded in custody awaiting crown court trial.

Class A Drugs Arrest

On July 25th a man was arrested in Tenby on suspicion of possession of drugs with intent to supply (cocaine, ecstasy and amphetamine). The alleged offender is currently on bail pending forensic examination of the drugs recovered.

Crown Court Result

On July 26th a Pembrokeshire man was imprisoned for 15 months for offences of affray, criminal damage, assault and breach of a probation order, which resulted from an incident that occurred at Haverfordwest on June 14th.

Crown Court Result

On July 26th a man appeared at Swansea crown court charged with serious sexual assault on a female, which occurred in the Haverfordwest area in February this year. He was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment. He is also required to register as a sex offender for life.

Crown Court Result

Following a murder enquiry in Haverfordwest in November last year, two men were arrested. One of the detained persons was ultimately charged with murder and the other with assisting an offender. On July 30th both men appeared before Swansea crown court and were sentenced to 18 years and 15 months imprisonment respectively.

Threats to kill

On 6th August 6th a man was arrested in Milford Haven after arming himself with a meat cleaver and a kitchen knife in order to threaten a local couple. He has appeared before Haverfordwest magistrates court and is currently remanded on conditional bail pending reappearances.

Drugs arrest

On August 7th a warrant under the misuse of drugs act was executed at an address in Clunderwen resulting in the recovery of a large quantity of class A, B and C drugs. A man has since been reported and is due to appear in court on a date to be fixed.

Crown Court Result

On September 7th a man appeared before Swansea crown court charged with a number of serious sexual offences committed between 1995 and 2006 and has been sentenced to 16 years imprisonment and ordered to register as a sex offender for life.

Local Initiatives

Local Environment Quality Grant

Following the grant of £50,000.00 from the Welsh Assembly Government's Local Environment Quality budget, Pembrokeshire Community Safety Partnership purchased a Land Rover pickup together with an 'Argo Cat Avenger' 8x8 amphibious vehicle. The Land Rover has been equipped with digital CCTV mounted on an extendable pneumatic mast, public address system and emergency light bar.

The vehicles have been used to very good effect on several beach cleaning operations in the county and by National Parks to remove 'fly tipped' waste from the Preseli Hills. The Argo Cat was also used successfully in a recent 'Beach Master' exercise to lay booms used to protect coasts from oil spills.

Organisations involved in the project to date are:

- o Pembrokeshire County Council
- o Dyfed Powys Police
- o Mid and West Wales Fire Service
- o Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
- o Milford Haven Port Authority
- o Countryside Council For Wales
- o Keep Wales Tidy
- o Pembrokeshire Community Safety Partnership
- o Chevron Texaco
- o W.A.G.

Alcohol and Young Person's Conference

This was held on the 7th June at the Nantylfin Motel and was opened by Jon Skone as Chair of the Community Safety Partnership. Cllr Howells launched the afternoon as Cabinet Member for young people and Anne Moazzen closed the event as YPP Chair. An excellent turnout (approximately 130) enabled those present to fully participate and the quality of presentations underlined the significant amount of work undertaken beforehand. The presentations/speakers included:

- Liam Watson from Drug Education Training who delivered the keynote speech.
- Rhys Sinnott from NPHS who presented the findings of the secondary school survey
- Gareth Mills / Marilyn Webster launched the new alcohol PSE curriculum materials
- Launch of "Milbrook Tapes"
- Consultation on the alcohol prevention priorities.

Workshops covered the following topics:

Road Safety Workshop

This presented an opportunity to see the work of the Police Road Safety section when engaging with groups of young adults who are drivers. The workshop provided an insight into safety issues when driving including the effects of speed, drink driving and driving without seat belts.

Licensing Workshop

This was an opportunity to engage with the enforcement authorities responsible for the protection of children from harm through alcohol. The workshop provided an insight into the work of Trading Standards, Police and the Licensing Authority and was seen as a useful tool to address alcohol misuse with young people.

Drug and Alcohol in Primary Schools

This focused on a new and innovative approach about educating primary school children on reducing the harm associated with drugs and alcohol.

Hook School Project

This workshop raised awareness on an award winning project that incorporates alcohol knowledge both within the primary school setting and the outlying community.

Drinks Spiking Workshop

This workshop showcased an innovative new internet based project which is used to highlight some of the risks of drink spiking amongst young people and identifies methods of keeping safe. The project utilises the latest in social marketing techniques to get health and personal safety messages across to young people and is led by representatives from Pembrokeshire based company, Mediabox.

A conference report will be published in September as it will include an action plan on the "way forward".

Keeping Young People Engaged in Mainstream Education

The partnership has funded equipment for Pembroke's Bush School for its Woodlands Project which provides vocational education for those young people who might otherwise fail in mainstream academic education. Recent funding from Community Safety and other partners has attracted additional funding of £250,000.00 from WAG to redevelop further buildings for the expansion of the project.

POWYS

Pre-Planned Operations

Operation Corvus

On June 19th Operation Corvus was conducted to support the execution of a possession order issued by Cardiff High Court to facilitate the construction of the high pressure pipeline across Wales. Although the operation required the use of police resources from across Wales, following early consultation with the National Grid and the High Court Enforcement Officers, alternative resources were provided which minimised the resource commitment required from the police.

On entering the site fourteen persons were found, 5 of whom left voluntarily leaving 9 persons locked onto items or suspended from height. A substantial tunnel network was located on the site which was checked and ultimately cleared by specialist tunnelling teams. During the two day operation 12 people were arrested for offences of obstruction of High Court Enforcement Officers, with additional guidance being provided by the National Public Order Intelligence Unit.

Operation Husky

Following an identification of a change in the drug supply market in the Newtown area an operation has commenced into the drug dealing activities of a new criminal network believed to originate from the Merseyside area. Partnership intelligence from Powys Drugs and Alcohol indicates that 'Class A' drug availability has increased. This has led to a marked increase in the number of house burglaries in the area from 17 offences to 44 for the fiscal year to date. This matter has been identified at BCU and Force Tasking and is being dealt with as a priority.

Events

Llanfyllyn Work House Festival

This year's music festival ran between June 29th and July 1st. It attracted an attendance of approximately 5000 persons. There were a number of minor incidents throughout the period, mostly dealt with by the large team of stewards at the site. In total only 8 crimes were reported over the period.

Royal Welsh Agricultural Show

This high profile event took place with a reduction on attendance figures of around 30%. A number of incidents occurred which were connected with the show, including an allegation of rape and a section 18 assault for which one person has been charged in connection with a knife attack on another male.

The crime profile showed a reduction compared to previous years and was as follows:

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Serious Assault	0	0	0	1
Assault	6	6	7	7
Sexual Offences	0	1	0	1
Public Order	0	24	4	2
Thefts /Vehicle Crime	33	26	16	6
Burglary	3	2	1	3
Criminal Damage	4	2	7	13
Drugs	0	1	2	2
Weapons	0	0	1	1
Total	46	62	38	36

Brecon International Festival of Jazz

Over the weekend of August 10th to 12th, Brecon hosted the annual Jazz Festival. Once again the detailed partnership approach to reducing crime and disorder resulted in a reduction in the levels of crime and related arrests compared to previous years and further improvements to public safety. This year saw a partial return to street entertainment finishing at 6pm with local businesses repeating the 'fringe' festival approach and providing off street entertainment into the evenings to compliment the official Jazz venues.

Powys Custody, processed 32 prisoners over the weekend with a further 3 being sent to Llanelli. Of those 35 only 19 are 'Jazz arrests', the remainder being attributed to the ongoing drink drive campaign and unrelated incidents elsewhere in Breconshire and Radnorshire. Of the Jazz arrests 4 were drugs related, 13 alcohol related disorder or violence, 1 damage and 1 offensive weapon. Multi-agency licensing visits to town centre premises ensured that the premises kept to their licensing conditions reducing alcohol related violence.

Ongoing Major Investigations

Manslaughter Investigation

The deaths of two people in Pendre Close Brecon in December 2006 from carbon monoxide poisoning continues to be investigated and is now being overseen by the Welsh CPS specialist crimes section. The enquiry is being conducted jointly with the Health and Safety Executive in accordance with the Work Related Death protocol. At present the police retain primacy in the investigation.

Road Traffic Fatal Investigations

During this period a total of three fatal road traffic collisions occurred.

A470 Llangurig to Newtown

On July 4th a fatal collision occurred on the A470 Llangurig to Newtown road, when a Toyota Avensis travelling towards Llangurig lost control in wet weather and spun across the road colliding with a VW Transporter Van travelling in the opposite direction. The driver of the Avensis sustained fatal injuries and the front seat passenger, sustained minor injuries and was

conveyed to Bronglais Hospital for observations overnight. The driver of the VW Van was uninjured.

A458 near Cefn Bridge

On July 13th on the A458 Shrewsbury to Welshpool road, near Cefn Bridge, Trewern a fatal road traffic collision occurred when a Landrover Discovery travelling in the direction of Welshpool lost control on a left hand bend and crossed the carriageway colliding with a Renault Espace.

A479

On July 28th, a road collision occurred on the A479 between Talgarth and Pengenffordd. This involved 5 vehicles, 3 motorcycles and 2 cars. One rider who went into the rear of the Terrano was taken to Neville Hall hospital, but died of his injuries 30 minutes after arrival.

Crown Court Cases

Judge's Commendation for Child Cruelty Work

Alison Rees appeared before Judge Christopher Llewellyn Jones at Merthyr Crown Court on June 15th where she was sentenced, having pleaded guilty to an offence of Child Cruelty. This follows an incident in November 2006 where in an effort to abort her unborn baby she drunk a substantial amount of alcohol and took diazepam tablets. She also administered diazepam and alcohol to her 12 year old son who was subsequently admitted to hospital. The boy's 13 year old brother refused to be administered with alcohol and drugs.

Judge Jones sentenced Ms Rees to a 2 year community related sentence and awarded a commendation and £250.00 reward to the 13 year old child and commented that he had likely saved his brother's life. He refused to accept alcohol and diazepam from his mother. He attempted to reason with his mother to resist her actions and to persuade his brother to not take alcohol and drugs. When his mother and brother became unconscious as a result of alcohol and drugs he carried his 12 year old brother approximately 1 mile uphill in a fireman's lift to a place of safety where he sought medical assistance.

After ensuring his 12 year old brother was safe he then walked back to his home address to rescue his 2 year old brother who remained in the family home. It was the opinion of medical experts that the boy's actions saved the life of his younger brother. He has been nominated for a High Sheriff Reward by Powys BCU. Judge Jones has supported this reward nomination.

Section 18 Assault

On July 25th, Martin Joseph Rutter and Joanne Caroline Jones appeared before Mr. Recorder Wyn Lloyd-Jones at Mold Crown Court for sentence in relation to an incident that had occurred in Newtown on May 7th 2006. Both Jones and Rutter had previously pleaded guilty to perverting the course of Justice. Rutter had been found guilty of section 18 assault following a five-day trial. Joanne Jones was sentenced to nine months imprisonment suspended for two years in relation to perverting the course of justice, with a further order of 200 hours community service.

In summing up the Judge described the attack as a sustained and determined one on the victim Glyn Jones, who was repeatedly punched and kicked with a minimum of twelve sites of blunt force injury that had left him with a major head injury from which he will never fully recover. Rutter was jailed indefinitely in relation to both the section assault 18 and Perverting the Course of Justice, the minimum period that he must serve before he can be considered for parole is four years and he will remain on licence for the rest of his life.

Other Matters

Powys Custody Suite, Newtown

Work on the Custody Suite at Newtown has commenced in earnest with an expected completion date of June 2008.

Powys BCU Customer Service Unit (CSU)

As outlined in my last report, Powys BCU, working in partnership with the Force Communications Centre (FCC), is the first within the Force to introduce a Customer Service Unit (CSU), which was launched on February 5th. The CSU provides a help desk facility which is staffed by experienced police staff seven days a week.

Since its launch it is evident that the facility has had a significant impact on crime reduction allowing the reactive demands on resources to be managed more effectively and efficiently allowing staff to be more proactive. This has resulted in the more effective targeting of known areas of crime and disorder together with identified priority and other prolific offenders. It has also significantly improved the management of STORM with the 'live calls' on the system being reduced by up to 50% which has meant that operational Sergeants and Inspectors are able to review it in less time thus freeing up time for operational supervision and management. It has also led to improved customer satisfaction (up some 20%) with the services delivered by the Division.

The below comments reflect the positive impact of this 'pilot' scheme from an internal and external perspective:

"Can I thank you all for your hard work and dedication with regards to the incident yesterday. I was so pleased that there were people like yourselves at the station who could assist us at the scene so effectively and efficiently. Without your assistance and support the incident would have been even more stressful than it already was" (a member of the local community)

"I would just like to take a few minutes of your time and show my appreciation with regards to CSU. I am a member of the NPT and since the introduction of CSU I have noticed an enormous difference with regards to the amount of work that no longer comes my way. The benefit has already been noted by my beat, as I now have more time to carry out my role" (a member of Divisional Neighbourhood Policing Staff)

"As a core cover Supervisor, I have benefited from the impact you and your team have had on the demands placed on my team. It is very noticeable that the calls that we attend which do not require our direct attendance have decreased allowing us more opportunity to investigate crime and pro-actively patrol hot-spots. Also, the transfer of such calls to the CSU filter makes STORM far easier to manage locally" (a Divisional Supervisor)

The 'pilot' is now being evaluated for a final report that will be submitted to the Force Executive by the end of October and provide a more detailed final evaluation as well as 'lessons learnt'.

Hate Crime Support Officer Pilot Scheme

The Hate Crime Support Officer Pilot Scheme that I have previously reported has continued to progress within the BCU. On receipt of notification of a hate crime an investigating officer is assigned to manage the investigation of the crime aspect of the offence. That officer is supported through the investigation with the nomination of a Hate Crime Support Officer (HCSO). The HCSO will ensure that issues surrounding the hate element of the crime are addressed through referral to an appropriate support agency.

The HCSO is also available to assist the relevant Neighbourhood Inspector in identifying measures to prevent the repeat victimization of the injured party. The use of 'legal mail' technology notifies supervisors and managers when hate crimes are recorded and they are then able to ensure that the pilot guidelines are applied. A concurrent policy of full crime audits to identify compliance with the Victim Codes of Practice is delivering consistently improving levels of service across the BCU. The results of surveys carried out with the victims of hate crime for the 1st quarter 2007 (months 4-6 of the pilot) show that customer satisfaction levels with the whole experience have reached 100% for the 1st time. The pilot scheme continues to gather momentum with Powys Victim Support, who are a key partner in this Scheme, having now identified a number of Volunteers who are to receive specialist training in hate crime issues.

Appendix A

PPAF DOMAIN		SPI Number	Indicator Description	2006/07 Performance	2007/08 Performance	Change	2007/08 End of Year Target
CITIZEN FOCUS (DOMAIN A)	User Satisfaction Measures	1a^	Satisfaction of victims of domestic burglary, violent crime, vehicle crime and road traffic collisions with respect to - a) making contact with the Police	93.4%	91.6%	-1.8%	93%
		1b^	b) action taken by the Police	82.6%	84.9%	2.3%	85%
		1c^	c) Being kept informed of progress	70.4%	76.2%	5.8%	75%
		1d^	d) Their treatment by staff	91.4%	94.1%	2.7%	93%
		1e^	e) the overall service provided	81.4%	86.3%	4.9%	86%
	Confidence Measure	2a^^	Using the BCS, the % of people who think their local police do a good job	55.1%	55.3%	0.2%	56%
	Fairness and Equality Measures	3a^	Satisfaction of victims of racist incidents with respect to the overall service provided	80.0%	100.0%	20.0%	86%
		3b	From SPI 1(e), comparison of satisfaction for white users and users from visible minority ethnic groups with respect to the overall service provided.	White - 82.4% Ethnic - 86.0%	White - 86.4% Ethnic - 100.0%	White +4.0% Ethnic +14.0%	White - 86% Ethnic - 86%
		3c(i)^	(i) % of PACE stop/searches which lead to arrest by ethnicity	White - 16.0% Ethnic - 41.2%	White - 13.9% Ethnic - 20.0%	White -2.1% Ethnic -21.2%	White - 20% Ethnic - 20%
		3d^	Comparison of percentage detected of violence against the person offences by ethnicity of the victim (sanction detections)	White - 47.4% Ethnic - 54.2%	White - 43.3% Ethnic - 44.4%	White -4.1% Ethnic -9.8%	White - 40% Ethnic - 40%
RESOURCE USAGE (DOMAIN B)	3e^^	Proportion of police recruits (ethnic) compared to the proportion of people from minority ethnic groups in the economically active population (EAP).	0.0% of recruits 1.0% of EAP	3.5% of recruits 1.0% of EAP	-	1.0%	
	3g^	% of female police officers compared to overall Force strength.	21.4%	22.6%	1.2%	22%	
	REDUCING CRIME (DOMAIN 1)	Measures of Crime Levels	4a^^	Using the British Crime Survey (a) the risk of personal crime; and	3.0%	2.6%	-0.4%
4b^^			(b) the risk of household crime.	9.0%	10.5%	1.5%	11%
5b			(b) Violent crime per 1,000 population.	7.81 (3,948 crimes)	5.85 (2,959 crimes)	-1.96 (-989 crimes)	15.6 (7,900 crimes)
5e^			(e) Life threatening crime and gun crime per 1,000 population.	0.08 (39 crimes)	0.06 (31 crimes)	-0.02 (-8 crimes)	0.28
5f*			(f) Acquisitive Crime per 1,000 population	2.29 (1,159 crimes)	2.41 (1,219 crimes)	+0.12 (+60 crimes)	6.6 (3,322 crimes)
INVESTIGATING CRIME (DOMAIN 2)	Offences Brought to Justice Measures (OBTJ)	6b^	% of notifiable/recorded offences resulting in convictions, caution or taken into consideration at court	42.7%	47.3%	4.6%	45%
	Detection Measure	7a	% of notifiable/recorded offences resulting in charge, summons, caution or taken into consideration at court ('sanction detections')	40.5%	42.1%	1.6%	40%
	Domestic Violence Measures	8a	Percentage of domestic violence incidents where an arrest was made relating to the incident.	45.6%	48.1%	2.5%	47%
	Asset Seizure	8c	Value of cash forfeiture orders and confiscation orders per 1,000 population	NEW	£509,614	N/A	£717,212
PROMOTING PUBLIC SAFETY (DOMAIN 3)	Traffic Measures	9a(i)	(i) Number of people killed in under 30 days or seriously injured in road traffic collisions	89 fatal or serious casualties	105 fatal or serious casualties	+16 casualties	403 fatal or serious casualties
		9a(ii)	(ii) Number of persons killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions per 100million vehicle kilometres travelled.	1.88	8.54	6.66	8.2
	Quality of Life Measures	10a^^	Using the British Crime Survey a) fear of crime	4.9%	8.2%	3.3%	10%
		10b^^	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour; and	8.3%	9.7%	1.4%	12%
10c^^	Perceptions of local drug use / drug dealing	22.9%	24.4%	1.5%	22%		
PROVIDING ASSISTANCE (DOMAIN 4)	Resource Use Measures	11a	Percentage of police officer time spent on frontline duties	N/A	N/A	-	68.7%
RESOURCE USE (DOMAIN B)		12a^^	Delivery of cashable and non-cashable efficiency targets	6.10%	N/A	-	3%
		13a^	Percentage of working hours lost due to sickness for police officers	2.65%	4.16%	1.51%	2.8%
		13b^	Percentage of working hours lost due to sickness for police staff	3.74%	4.20%	0.46%	3.6%
NEW PPAF DOMAIN							
LOCAL POLICING DOMAIN	Local Policing Domain	LP 1.1	No. of class A drug offenders charged with trafficking	52	77	48.1%	95
		LP 1.2*	No. of class A drug offences of possession	76	125	64.5%	363
		LP 1.3*	No. of Drug Offences for the production of controlled drugs	32	32	0.0%	86
		LP 2.1**	No. of incidents involving victims of domestic violence who have been a victim in more than one incident in the previous 12-months	834	731	-12.4%	779
		LP 2.2	% of violent crime detected (sanction detections) - excluding Harassment offences resulting in a fixed penalty notice	57.3% (2,126)	54.6% (1,457)	-2.7% (-669 dets)	60%
		LP 2.3*	No. of violent offences against the person where alcohol is identified as a contributory factor	1,617	1,232	-23.8%	4106
		LP 3.2	Sanction Detection Rate for Criminal Damage Offences	22.4%	22.9%	0.5%	26%

^ Latest data available for the period April 2007 - June 2007

^^ Latest data available for the period April 2006 - March 2007

* Latest data available for the period April 2007 - July 2007

** Data is for the period year ending August 2007

ACTIONS FROM POLICE AUTHORITY 17 SEPTEMBER

1. Letter to Cllr Ray Thomas (ACE)
2. No repayments to officers given SPPs in error in 2004 (CC)
3. Letter to Bob Jones to thank him for attending the Police Authority meeting (ACE)
4. Final copy of GES to Community Engagement on 3 rd December (Community Engagement delegated authority to approve (Minute 113 – Special Police Authority 30/3/2007) (AC)
5. Distribute 2007 Local Policing Summaries with Council Tax notices (T/MSO)
6. Review Authority's Terms of Reference taking into consideration comments from Members (T/AC)
7. Appointments Panel for DCC approved (ACE)
8. Explanation for changes in Schedule of Meetings (MSO)
9. Authority commitment to principle of developing a Strategic Plan for the Authority driven through the Strategic Policy Working Party and series of Members' Seminars with an interim report to the Police Authority in December 2007 (T/AC)
10. Delegated authority to Audit Committee to approve the revised Statement of Accounts (T/DFR)
11. Treasurer & Director of Finance & Resources, in consultation with Chair of Finance provide a response to DCLG in respect of the Police Funding Formula (T/DFR)
12. Arrange meetings with MPs and AMs (T/Secretariat)
13. Authority's congratulations to officers for good police work highlighted in CCs report (CC)
14. Arrange meeting of HSU Relocation Board (DFR)
15. Delegated authority to CC to award contract for forensic medical services, initially for 12 month period.