

POLICE AUTHORITY AND FORCE COLLABORATION

Dyfed Powys Police Authority and Force is firmly committed to collaborate with other Police Forces and Public Authorities to maintain the standard of Policing currently afforded to the communities of Dyfed Powys.

Following the Government's change of heart over the enforced amalgamation of Police Forces within England and Wales, Police Forces focused on working together in areas where the criminal threat fell across Force boundaries and a joint Force approach was required to maximise an effective response. Police Authorities and Forces in Wales agreed to further progress joint working in areas such as countering terrorism and domestic extremism, major crime and serious and organised cross border crime. Units such as TARIAN (Regional Task Force, Regional Asset Recovery Team and Regional Intelligence Unit) and the Wales Extremism and Counter Terrorism Units (WECTU) were established and the public will be aware from major media reporting of the success that they have achieved.

However, the substantial funding reductions imposed by Government since 2010/11 have led to further projects being developed which focus mainly on collaboration between 2 or 3 Forces with an emphasis on a pragmatic and flexible approach. A summary of the seven main projects is set out below:

Specialist Crime Investigation

Gwent, South Wales and Dyfed Powys Police

Organised crime groups involved in trafficking Class A drugs, immigration crime and fraud, present a significant and sustained threat to our communities. By working collaboratively we can also provide an enhanced service and better value for money.

This particular project reflects the operational Policing context and geography of Wales and focuses on the Southern Welsh Forces. It will lead to the creation of a Specialist Crime Directorate between the Gwent and South Wales Police Forces with opportunities for Dyfed Powys Police to opt in as appropriate.

The Specialist Crime Directorate will be dedicated to tackling serious and organised crime, with Officers and Staff working together to target those causing the most harm to our communities. It will also allow for a 24/7 intelligence capability, the advantage of which will bring greater and more flexible surveillance and operational investigative capacity.

Joint Scientific Support Unit

Gwent, South Wales and Dyfed Powys Police

This project will lead to a joint Scientific Support Unit between Gwent and South Wales Police with Dyfed Powys Police opting in to some, but not all, aspects of the service. It will take a phased approach in order to manage staffing issues relating to terms and conditions of employment. Dyfed Powys Police would initially collaborate on specific areas such as a DNA Clean Room and ballistic analysis and the proposed plans for a Drugs and Glass Laboratory. Further opportunities for an integrated working arrangement based on a remote hub operating in Dyfed Powys but linked to a joint unit in Bridgend will be explored.

Phased implementation has already begun with the creation of a Regional Trace Evidence Collection Laboratory and a ballistics facility. Through the Trace Evidence Room, scientists are already demonstrating real cashable savings in terms of reducing the number of submissions to forensic service providers together with providing a premium service to operational Policing.

Firearms

Dyfed Powys, Gwent and South Wales Police

We are working towards a joint approach to firearms training and response, to enhance our operational capacity and capability across Wales to incidents requiring armed Officers. We are also looking at ways in which we can share resources in order to provide the most efficient and effective method of delivering this highly specialised service.

This project will involve Gwent, South Wales and Dyfed Powys Police developing options for the establishment of a joint firearms range. The project has a link with North Wales Police which in turn will ensure it takes cognisance of developments in the North West of England.

The project will also:-

- (i). Scope a regional model for delivering firearms training across the Forces and will report back to Chief Constables with options.
- (ii). Develop options for the creation of a Firearms Unit between South Wales and Gwent Police.
- (iii). Link in with Dyfed Powys Police to develop a Memorandum of Understanding/Agreements for specialist firearms support and functions.

ICT

Dyfed Powys, Gwent, North Wales and South Wales Police

This project aims to reduce the current costs for ICT provision across the Welsh Police Forces. A two part requirement has been agreed firstly, to develop a common ICT infrastructure across Wales (using North Wales as the bridge to the North West to create a broader common operating area), and secondly, to focus on the realignment of business processes and systems which would ultimately enable an alignment of ICT software systems.

The work which was being undertaken between North and South Wales on developing Niche in a consistent way would be the catalyst for greater integration of business system and process followed by software systems.

Interoperability

Dyfed Powys, Gwent, North Wales and South Wales Police

Historically, the Police Service has evolved on a Force basis which has often meant that structures, systems and processes and the technology that supports them has developed independently.

This project seeks to develop commonality across systems and processes which are not currently linked and enable the four Forces to operate seamlessly. It covers the full Policing spectrum and will also enhance the capability of units from the Forces to work more closely together on operational matters.

Procurement

Dyfed Powys, Gwent and South Wales Police

This project seeks to improve our effectiveness in managing procurement, through a procurement capability review, which will assess current capacity and capability in Force departments. It will cover the provision of products and services designed to improve procurement efficiency, such as contract databases and frameworks and the provision of clear policy guidance and best practice.

It will, by fostering a skilled and professional network in the Procurement Departments, seek to establish a 'virtual' joint Procurement Unit for the Southern Welsh Forces.

Creation of an All Wales Criminal Justice Board

Dyfed Powys, Gwent, North Wales and South Wales Police

This project has led to the creation of an All Wales Criminal Justice Board. It will enable closer partnership working between Criminal Justice Agencies and Community Safety Partnerships and a multi agency strategic approach to issues which impact on the quality of life of those living in our communities.

Whilst not a project in itself, the Police Authorities of Wales has also commissioned work which is being led by a Chief Police Officer, to coordinate local activity across the four Forces to ensure that opportunities for common systems and processes are exploited where appropriate in conjunction with the Crown Prosecution Service and Courts.

To ensure that collaboration was efficiently and effectively governed, the Police Authorities in Wales formalised previous arrangements and in 2007 created a statutory joint Committee (PAW) with the responsibility of ensuring that collaborative projects were managed within budget and were meeting the performance targets that had been set for them. PAW is regarded as an exemplar of collaborative governance. However, funding restrictions have led to the introduction of a different governance structure. Where all the Police Forces in Wales participate in collaborative ventures, the governance will still be provided by PAW. Other collaborative ventures involving three or fewer Forces will be the subject of governance directly by the Police Authorities of the Forces involved.

Dyfed Powys Force and Authority also collaborate with other public services. Some facilities in Dyfed Powys are shared with the Force occupying space in other public services premises and vice versa.

Furthermore, you will find many other examples of Force and Authority collaborating with its Community Safety Partners to reduce the risk of crime and disorder across Dyfed Powys.

The Police Authorities themselves collaborate, insofar as is appropriate, to distribute work amongst their Secretariats to develop common policies and internal procedures and respond to central and devolved Government policy consultation as well as sharing

specialised training with one Authority drawing up a training programme to be delivered to all four Authorities.

Even on a one off basis you will find the Police Authority and Force holding public meetings with other public services to share costs and comprehensively brief the public on the standards of performance that they have achieved.

Further information concerning the ways in which Police Forces and Authorities within Wales collaborate with each other is available on the following web sites:

www.dyfedpowyspoliceauthority.co.uk

www.dyfed-powys.police.uk

www.policeauthoritiesofwales.org.uk