

REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

SOUTH WALES POLICE

TITLE: Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales' Extraordinary Report on COVID-19

DATE: 4th JUNE 2020

PURPOSE: The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the South Wales Police response to policing the COVID-19 national emergency.

1.	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u> That the Police and Crime Panel notes the attached requested report and the significant ongoing activity by South Wales Police and Commissioner during the COVID-19 outbreak.
2.	<u>INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND</u> The Policing Protocol (Para 14) states that the public accountability for the delivery and performance of the police service is placed into the hands of the Commissioner on behalf of their electorate. This has been ongoing despite the challenges of COVID-19. The Panel within each force area is empowered to maintain a regular check and balance on the performance of the Commissioner in that context, but in this case this is an unprecedented pandemic and oversight and partnership working has been adjusted accordingly and proportionately. The attached report highlights the impact on South Wales Police.
3.	<u>ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION</u> While the situation is unprecedented, South Wales Police has a strong track record in preparing for and responding to major events and emergencies. Tried and tested plans have been activated and they continue to adapt and respond as necessary. This is an ongoing and 'live' issue and the attached report reflects some immediate issues raised in line with questions raised by the National Association of Police and Fire Panels.
4.	<u>NEXT STEPS</u> The Commissioner will provide an update on the information provided on the day of the Panel. This will include an update on specific activity conducted by the Commissioner and his team as well as engagement with partners and oversight of South Wales Police. As the impact of the pandemic continues so will the oversight and partnership working, that can be reported to future Panels.

5.	<u>FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS</u> There is ongoing monitoring of the financial impact of COVID-19, this report does not cover the detail of this ongoing element of work. Detail can be provided to future Panel meetings.
6.	<u>PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS</u> The impact on South Wales Police's People is included in the attached report.
7.	<u>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</u> The Panel within each force area is empowered to maintain a regular check and balance on the performance of the Commissioner in that context of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
8.	<u>EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS</u> This proposal has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Strategic Equality Plan and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.
9.	<u>RISK</u> The risk to policing in South Wales is included in the attached report.
10.	<u>PUBLIC INTEREST</u> This report will be placed on the website of both the Commissioner and the Police and Crime Panel.
11.	<u>CONTACT OFFICER</u> Lee Jones, Chief Executive, South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
12.	<u>ANNEXES</u> Extraordinary Report on COVID-19