

“EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED TO EVERYTHING ELSE”

RT HON ALUN MICHAEL

POLICING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS

EVERYONE IS A LEADER AND WE WILL DEVELOP THE PROFESSIONAL ROLE OF OUR PCSOs TO REFLECT THAT

We are enhancing the Police Community Support Officer role as communicator (to the local community and listening to the local community), problem solver (with the local community) and enabler to empower local communities.

Leadership is the responsibility of everyone and we will value and develop the distinctive role of our Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) as problem solvers who listen to, involve and empower local people. Our local approach to keeping communities safe helps combat extremism, terrorism and serious and organised crime.

DIGITAL LEADERSHIP

TECHNOLOGY BRINGS NEW THREATS BUT CAN IMPROVE THE WAY WE POLICE OUR COMMUNITIES

We are at the cutting edge of digital leadership – working collaboratively with Gwent Police to deliver:

- Agile working to increase the time spent by officers in their communities
- New and improved ways of reporting crime
- More efficient, integrated systems

The Commissioner champions innovation whilst building confidence in how technology is used. For example, South Wales Police has been at the forefront of using facial recognition technology as a preventative measure at major public events and our approach has ensured the integrity and legitimacy of its use balancing protecting the safety of the public with protecting civil liberties.

IMPROVING GOVERNANCE & SCRUTINY

ONE OF THE COMMISSIONER'S KEY RESPONSIBILITIES IS TO PROVIDE ACCOUNTABILITY ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC

Our governance arrangements ensure appropriate accountability and assist effective leadership. For example, we operate a Scrutiny & Accountability Board where operational policing is held to account for the delivery of its services on behalf of the public and runs a board containing community members and partner agencies that are able to feed in their views on policing issues. Areas that are regularly scrutinised include use of force, stop search and use of facial recognition technology.

PREVENTING VIOLENCE

REDUCING VIOLENCE HAS BEEN A KEY AIM FOR THE COMMISSIONER SINCE 2012, USING DATA SHARING WITH HEALTH TO PINPOINT WHERE AND HOW VIOLENCE OCCURS

This has exposed violence that had not been reported to the police, leading to local action to prevent future violence.

With partners we have secured £1.2million from the Home Office to deliver an all-Wales approach to tackling the root causes of violence through early intervention and prevention. We work with partners – especially Public Health Wales - to reduce the drivers of violence, drug dealing and knife crime.

TACKLING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS

EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IS KEY TO KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE

Our Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Joint Strategy 2019-24 builds on our partnership approach to tackle all forms of violence and abuse; we have improved how we use partnership data to inform a more joined up approach. As such we have taken forward actions to better protect victims and increase perpetrator accountability. Voices of victims and survivors remain critical in informing the development of a long-term whole systems response.

Our work to prevent this complex problem involves collaboration with partners including:

- Welsh Women's Aid Change that Lasts programme, strengthening responses for victims with local disclosure points, Community Ambassadors, Trusted Professionals and additional specialist support
- Expanding the DRIVE programme across the whole South Wales Police area to work with 390 high harm perpetrators, safeguarding victims and children
- Welsh Government, Public Health Wales, local authorities, specialist agencies and the Violence Prevention Unit working in partnership towards eradication of all forms of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

VICTIMS

VICTIMS ARE AT THE HEART OF ALL WE DO. WE HAVE STRENGTHENED VITAL SERVICES TO HELP VICTIMS OF CRIME COPE AND RECOVER

We have listened to people who have experienced crime to significantly improve services. South Wales Victim Focus is providing the help people need, when they need it.

The South Wales Police & Crime Commissioner, through Ministry of Justice Funding, has allocated over £4.5 million over the past 3 years to help victims on their recovery journey.

Owing to the unprecedented nature of 2020, we secured an additional £635,000 extraordinary COVID-19 funding from the Ministry of Justice, which was allocated to specialist services to help support victims during the pandemic.

A Victims and Witness Strategy 2020-2025 has been developed jointly between the Commissioner and Chief Constable in consultation with stakeholders.

12,730
VICTIMS SUPPORTED
in 2019/20

PREVENTING AND REDUCING OFFENDING

OUR COMMITMENT TO PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION HAS DRIVEN RADICAL CHANGES TO CUT RE-OFFENDING, BY PROVIDING SUPPORT FOCUSED ON UNDERSTANDING THEIR NEED

It provides a golden opportunity as, particularly as people transition to adulthood, influencing relationships and well-being. We also work collaboratively with Probation and Prison services to drive early interventions with young people, women and those with substance use issues.

Substance misuse is a key driver for offending behaviour, and as such the Dyfodol service has been developed to address the key health and social harms associated with substance use and misuse. The Dyfodol service attempts to break the cycle of substance misuse and offending by working with people from the point they first enter the criminal justice system, providing rigorous, seamless assessment and support across police custody suites, Courts, prisons and in the community. Jointly funded with Probation and Prisons, it involves public, voluntary and private sectors, in partnership with NHS and Local Authorities across South Wales to develop complementary services.

VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERING IS “THE ESSENTIAL ACT OF CITIZENSHIP” AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PART OF POLICING BY CONSENT

We've built on strong foundations established in recent years by actively encouraging volunteers to play a full part in local policing. Special Constables have grown in numbers and the hours they devote to the community, while our Police Youth Volunteers are helping their community while developing communication skills and working towards a St John's first aid qualification and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Our Independent Custody Visitors and animal welfare visitors provide a vital scrutiny role, ensuring that the rights and entitlements of people in custody are upheld, and that police dogs and horses are well treated.

During COVID-19 our South Wales Police Volunteers have played a significant role in reopening courts and enabling victims to give evidence remotely.

Over
82,781
HOURS
volunteered
in 2019/20

