

# **GWENT POLICE AUTHORITY**

**Date:** 30th January 2009

**Item No:** 5a

**Heading:** Police Authority Partnership Protocol

**Report Author:** Chief Executive

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## **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide all members with an opportunity to comment on the Police Authority Partnership Protocol (Annex A) prior to its adoption and application by and for members in relation to our future partnership working methodology.

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## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

Members are invited to comment on the proposed Police Authority Partnership Protocol Document prior to adoption.

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Members will be aware that Police Authorities have a duty to participate effectively in local partnership and joint working arrangements.
- 1.2 Although Police Authorities are in some cases responsible authorities (e.g. Community Safety Partnerships), there has previously been a lack of clarity regarding the actual role that they play on any given partnership. This stems principally from the fact that Police Authorities do not provide an obvious direct service to the public other than that provided via the police service.
- 1.3 Although guidance has been provided to assist Police Authorities in establishing their role within local partnerships, it was felt in Gwent that a more localised approach should be progressed.

## **2. PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE/CURRENT POSITION**

- 2.1 To inform their involvement in partnership working on behalf of the Police Authority, a development day was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2008 to obtain members thoughts on how this matter should be progressed. The commentary and outcomes resulting from the event were used to devise a partnership protocol for the Police Authority which is the subject of this report. Members who attended the training day have also been provided with an opportunity to comment on the draft protocol and their observation have been included where practicable.

- 2.2 Comprising 3 sections, part 1 provides the Partnership Protocol, part 2 a Members Guide to Working in Partnerships and part 3 the documentation to be used when assessing our involvement with specific partnerships.
- 2.3 The purpose of this report is to provide all members with an opportunity to comment on the protocol prior to its adoption and application by and for members in relation to our future partnership working methodology.

### **3. STAFFING/PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There are no staffing implications arising directly from the content of this report.

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from the content of this report.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 Members, ACPO, Force NHP Lead Officer, WLGA, Cumbria and Greater Manchester Police have all been consulted in relation to the protocol.

### **6. PROJECT ASSESSMENT FOR EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY MATTERS**

- 6.1 This project/proposal has been considered against the general duty to promote equality, as stipulated under the Police Authority's Equality Schemes, and has been assessed not to discriminate against any particular group.

### **7. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 There are no specific risks identified in relation to the contents of this report.

### **8. STAYING AHEAD (2011 REVIEW)**

- 8.1 There are no specific implications relating to the 2011 Review.

### **9. CONCLUSION**

- 9.1 The role of Police Authorities within partnership and joint working arrangements requires clarification both internally and with stakeholders and partners. The protocol seeks to provide this clarity whilst also providing the focus for the progress of Police Authority partnership working.

### **10. CONTACT OFFICER**

- 10.1 Mr Neil Taylor - Community Engagement Manager

## **11. APPENDIX**

11.1 **Appendix A;** Police Authority Draft Partnership Protocol, November 2008.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Member's Development Workshop – Partnership Working - Agreed Programme, WLGA/ Gwent Police Authority, 2007 / 2008.
- APA Guidance, Contributing to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships; June 2008.
- Partnership Working, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2008, Notes, Comments, Analysis Report; Steve Williams & Rachel Morgan, WLGA.
- Police Authority Report, Partnership Working Event – Outcomes Report, October 2008;