



NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT PROTOCOL

**A Role for Police Authorities in
Neighbourhood Engagement**

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1. Background

- 1.1 Gwent Police Authority and Gwent Police have introduced Neighbourhood Policing Teams across Gwent, providing easy access to local police and support to partner agencies that have joint responsibility for community safety matters.
- 1.2 The Neighbourhood Policing structure provides an excellent opportunity for the Police Authority to actively support front line officers and staff who have responsibility for engagement, service delivery and to promote the opportunities that local policing offers to communities. This protocol describes how the Police Authority will seek to be proactively involved in neighbourhood level engagement activity to support the neighbourhood policing ethos introduced throughout Gwent.

2. The Neighbourhood Policing Structure

- 2.1 Neighbourhood Policing aims to provide communities with:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Access | to policing or community safety services through a named point of contact |
| Influence | over community safety priorities in their neighbourhood |
| Interventions | joint action with communities and partners to solve problems |
| Answers | sustainable solutions to problems and feedback on results |

- 2.2 Each area will have a structure of engagement that will include Public Meetings and Surgeries, as well as other methods and tools to keep communities informed on policing issues.
- 2.3 The community engagement process is not police led, but is a joint exercise between the Community, Police and Partners. For each Neighbourhood Policing Team, a Community Safety Partnership comprising organisations from the community, partners and the local neighbourhood team, commonly participate in the engagement process.
- 2.4 Local Policing Unit (LPU) Superintendents (See Appendix 1) will arrange regular meetings with Members prior to Full Police Authority meetings to brief Members on local topics which might include; crime trends, local concerns, significant incidents, local engagement activity and findings and good work undertaken. Discussions at these briefing will identify opportunities for Members to consider attending in order to support local activity and promote the aims of the Police Authority.

3. Involvement of Police Authority Members

- 3.1 The purpose of Police Authority Member involvement will be to:
 - i) understand and promote the neighbourhood policing structure in their area amongst local people;
 - ii) hear first-hand the views of local people on the issues most important to them;
 - iii) support local neighbourhood policing teams in managing expectations and developing resolutions;
 - iv) support collaboration and partnership working;
 - v) monitor and support the continued strategic development and mainstreaming of the neighbourhood policing structure.

- 3.2 It is anticipated that Members' involvement in Neighbourhood activity engagement will also provide opportunities to increase awareness and raise the profile of the role of the Police Authority amongst communities and staff in Gwent.
- 3.3 If a Police Authority Member attend a particular event, following liaison with the LPU Superintendent, they should ask the Police representative leading on the event to notify the organiser and to inform other attendees as appropriate.
- 3.4 If Members feel unable to respond to any matter raised at an event that is related to the Police Authority role, the matter should be referred to the Chief Executive's office for a response as appropriate.

4 How it will work

- 4.1 The Local Policing Unit (LPU) Superintendents briefings will be the conduit for them to apprise members of local activities that they might wish to support on behalf of the Police Authority.
- 4.2 Members can obtain a further overview of the local neighbourhood activity structure and contacts in their local area by accessing www.gwent.police.uk and viewing the section on Neighbourhood Policing.
- 4.3 It is not anticipated that Members will have the capacity to regularly attend every neighbourhood-based event. Therefore, Members are asked to support local community focussed events where there is a need and / or opportunity identified as a result of their discussions with the LPU Superintendents and the Police Authority Engagement Manager.
- 4.4 Attendance at any event should be pre-arranged directly with the relevant local officer or member of staff. Members are also required to notify the Secretariat when they attend events / meetings and report back as appropriate using the form at Appendix 2.

5 Member Support

- 5.1 Additional information on the role of the Police Authority is available and Members can obtain information leaflets etc, when required. If Members identify any public facing information gaps, they are asked to make these known to the Community Engagement Manager via the report template attached.

6 Feedback

- 6.1 All feedback received will be used to inform relevant Police Authority activity as applicable and will be reported to the wider Police Authority by way of reports to the Service Delivery Committee.
- 6.2 The key issues to feedback might include:
 - Your impressions as to the effectiveness of the Neighbourhood Policing arrangements in each area and any concerns or comments raised.
 - Your ideas for further raising the profile of the Police Authority both internally and externally.
 - Your observations on more general policing issues gathered from members of the public,
 - Your ideas to further engage local people.
 - Your ideas on developing any aspects of this protocol.
 - Your ideas on information that is made available to Members to support your engagement with communities.

6.3 If Members feel there are opportunities for further engagement with the public on policing or Police Authority matters, they are encouraged to discuss this with the Community Engagement Manager at the Police Authority.

7 Further Enquiries

7.1 Any further enquiries in relation to this protocol should be referred to:

Community Engagement Manager
Gwent Police Authority
Police Headquarters
Croesyceiliog
Cwmbran
South Wales
NP44 2XJ

Appendix 1- Member/ LPU Information

| LPU | Members within each LPU area | Total Number of Wards * | LPU Contacts and Areas Covered |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Newport | Cllr. Matthew Evans Mr. Omar Ali Cllr. Ed Townsend | 19 | Supt. Julian Knight Insp. Neil Muirhead - Pill, Bettws Insp. Geraint Evans - Maindee, Alway Insp. Robert Thompson - Newport Central |
| Caerphilly | Cllr. Harry Andrews Cllr. Colin Mann | 33 | Supt. Jon Burley Insp. Paul Staniforth -Bedwas, Caerphilly Insp. Richard Brake - Risca Insp. Kevin Childs - Ystrad Mynach, Blackwood Insp. Fran Richley - Bargoed, Rhymney |
| Blaenau Gwent | Cllr. Malcolm Dally Cllr. W. John Williams Mr. Roger Leadbeter | 16 | Supt. Mark Warrander Insp. Anthony Green - Tredegar, Ebbw Vale Insp. Ian Muirhead - Abertillery, Brynmawr |
| Torfaen | Mrs. Cilla Davies Cllr. Phil Seabourne Mr. David Bayliss | 23 | Supt. Peter Keen Insp. Martin Hayter - Cwmbran Insp. Matthew Williams - Pontypool |
| Monmouthshire | Mr. Robert Derricott Ms. Geraldine Reddington Cllr. Peter Clarke Cllr. Andrew Crump Mr. John Hathaway Mrs Frances Taylor | 43 | Supt. David Johnson Insp. Michael Boycott - Monmouth, Abergavenny Insp. Jim Walker - Caldicot, Chepstow |

* A full Ward listing is available for Members if required

MEMBER REPORTING TEMPLATE

MEMBER'S NAME: _____

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| MEETING: | |
| DATE: | |
| LOCATION | |

1. Please list the priorities / key issues / actions resulting from the event / meeting.

2. Please record any points of note you would like to feedback following your attendance, focussing on the following issues:

2(a) Your impressions as to the effectiveness and usefulness of the event/ Neighbourhood Policing meeting. Please include any specific areas of good practice or those that would benefit from further development.

