



## **Policing Partnership Board for Wales**

### **Microsoft Teams**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025 13:30 – 15:30**

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendees**

Jane Hutt MS	Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip (Chair)
Sarah Jones MP	Minister for Policing and Crime, Home Office
Ifan Charles	Chief Constable, Dyfed Powys Police
Mark Hobrough	Chief Constable, Gwent Police
Amanda Blakeman	Chief Constable, North Wales Police
Jason Davies	Deputy Chief Constable, South Wales Police
Dafydd Llywelyn	Police and Crime Commissioner, Dyfed Powys
Jane Mudd	Police and Crime Commissioner, Gwent
Andy Dunbobbin	Police and Crime Commissioner, North Wales
Emma Wools	Police and Crime Commissioner, South Wales
Eleri Thomas	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, Gwent
Wayne Jones	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, North Wales
Kate Jackson	Chief Finance Officer, North Wales OPCC
Mike Connolly	Deputy Director, Community Safety Division, Welsh Government
Sasha Yilmaz	Head of Crime and Justice, Welsh Government
James Gerard	Deputy Director, Justice Policy, Welsh Government
Claire Russell-Griffiths	Senior Manager, Crime and Justice Team, Welsh Government
Leanne Lewis	Manager, Crime and Justice Team, Welsh Government
Sarah Melkevik	Head of VAWDASV Strategy, Welsh Government
Joanne Hopkins	Public Health Wales
Ian Barrow	Executive Director Wales, HM Prison and Probation Service
Harry Gerrard	Devolution Officer, Home Office Wales Team
Gregg Dyer	Head of Domestic Affairs, Office of the Secretary of State for Wales
Naomi Alleyne	Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director (Policy), WLGA
Andrew Morgan	Councillor, Rhondda Cynon Taf Council
Mark Brace	Head of the Safer Communities Network, WLGA
Carys Morgans	Chief Executive, Dyfed Powys OPCC
Sian Curley	Chief Executive, Gwent OPCC
Lee Jones	Chief Executive, South Wales OPCC
Stephen Hughes	Chief Executive, North Wales OPCC
Paul Morris	Head of Police Liaison Unit
Stacey Evans	APCC Wales Policy Manager, Policing in Wales
Joanna Huddleston	Administrator, Police Liaison Unit

#### **Apologies**

Jeremy Vaughan	Chief Constable, South Wales Police
Judith Paget	Director General HSSG/Chief Executive NHS Wales, Welsh Government
Helen Hill	Business and Network Development Manager, Safer Communities Network, WLGA
Tracy Cooper	Public Health Wales
Jenny Hopkins	Chief Crown Prosecutor, CPS
David Holloway-Young	Chief Finance Officer, South Wales OPCC

<b>Actions arising from the meeting</b>	
Mike Connolly/Welsh Government Officials to secure a meeting between the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip and Welsh PCCs for mid-January 2026.	Mike Connolly/WG Officials
Welsh Government Officials to confirm that the issue around counselling funding for WSAS are being addressed.	CSSJTCW/WG Officials

## **1. Welcome and Chair's Address**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. She expressed her gratitude that the Minister for Policing and Crime, Sarah Jones MP is in attendance for the first hour of the meeting.

The Chair acknowledged the victims, their families and the Jewish community following the terrorist attack on Bondi Beach during Hanukkah and noted that it was in the last meeting in October 2025 where the horrific attack at Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Manchester was acknowledged. The terrorist attack at Bondi Beach was a targeted anti-Semitic attack on a public holiday gathering, whatever an individual's beliefs or background, this is an attack on shared freedoms. She noted that it is a very worrying time for Jewish communities in Wales and mentioned that she took the opportunity to meet with Jewish community representatives on Welsh Government's Faith Communities Forum as well as the lighting of the Hanukkah celebrations taking place at the Senedd. She is continuing to work with Police and Faith Leaders and wanted to extend her thanks to Policing in Wales for providing additional reassurance patrols to Welsh Synagogues.

She advised she also met with Dr Ahmed, Chair of the Muslim Council for Wales due to the alleged attacks with the criminal court case having recently commenced in London. The impact of the recent attack was also discussed with Dr Ahmed who mentioned a meeting is due to take place at the Madina Mosque with a Chief Superintendent from South Wales Police.

## **2. Reforming Governance of Policing: Implications for Wales**

The Minister for Policing and Crime acknowledged that the Policing Partnership Board for Wales is the bridge between both devolved and reserved policing issues in Wales. She noted that the UK Government announced the decision to abolish Police and Crime Commissioners at the end of their term of office in 2028. She stressed that the decision wasn't a reflection of the work that had been done by the PCCs and their teams, it was more of a reflection of the model that they didn't believe was working in the way that it was originally intended.

She recognised that Wales has a different set of structures in place and is not developing the Mayoral Model in the way that England is. She stated that the aim is to make the model work to define how it will operate in the future but this is dependant on the Police Landscape Reform White Paper that will be announced in January 2026 in terms of the what the policing landscape will be more broadly. However, 10 different working groups have been set up with the APCC which are considering the different aspects that PCCs oversee such as commissioning, accountability etc. to make sure this continues beyond 2028.

**2.1.** The Chair thanked Sarah Jones MP and noted that since the announcement to abolish the role of PCCs was made that she has put Welsh Government's appreciation for the work that Welsh PCCs have delivered on record in the Senedd. She stated that she remains committed to supporting Welsh PCCs and their teams, she noted that the key issue is best outcome for communities and what will provide them with the most effective policing and create the most trust and confidence. The Chair noted that there are distinct local and national governance models in place in Wales with different legislative structures including the PPBfW, therefore what may work for England may not work for Wales so she feels that this needs to be discussed openly and constructively in this meeting. She understood this point was made when the First Minister and Deputy First Minister of Wales recently met with the Prime Minister where he accepted the importance of not imposing the same approach across England and Wales, recognising the need to work collaboratively with Welsh stakeholders. The Chair felt that the initial principles should ensure that scrutiny and governance arrangements should be transparent for the public, respect operational independence of policing, ensure every local community has a voice, new structures must have provisions to be accessible to the public with clearly defined responsibilities for decision making as well as the new arrangements ensure that Wales has a powerful voice in these discussions. She concluded by suggesting that the subject of devolution of policing has been opened up for consideration with the decision to reform policing structures and noted that it is part of Parliamentary

debate on the upcoming legislation, so Welsh Government hope the UK Government will be openminded on the prospect of devolution as the best arrangements for Wales are considered.

**2.2.** PCC Wools noted that as a group of Welsh PCCs, they are disappointed by the announcement but their attention has shifted to ensuring there is recognition of the unique delivery landscape in Wales. Policing in Wales have responded swiftly and constructively to the announcement by engaging with key stakeholders and partners as well as understanding that Policing in Wales are uniquely placed in terms of understanding the model in its current form and therefore are able to help drive and inform the next steps. She wanted to make a note that this is a challenging period for OPPCs and staff within OPCCs but they have acted with the highest level of professionalism in terms of their response.

There is a need to ensure that reforms don't leave communities in Wales disadvantaged in comparison to England, so PCCs are considering how they can utilise the key features and principles from the Mayoral Model whilst also recognising that any model will need to reflect the constitutional arrangements that are different in Wales.

Policing in Wales have made a significant effort to ensure that the Welsh difference and Welsh voice is recognised at a national level and she is pleased to say that Policing in Wales have been included in governance arrangements and the 10 workstreams mentioned. It is important to note that Wales has a long-standing respected reputation in terms of partnership working in Wales, so any successor model will need to enable and preserve the partnership between devolved and non-devolved services. Policing in Wales have already met to begin to consider future governance arrangements whilst being conscious that it is a partnership endeavour and noted that she is glad that Cllr Andrew Morgan is in attendance as the current Chair of WLGA as his perspective and colleagues will be vital for future arrangements.

The key design principles that have been discussed are achieving the best outcomes for communities in Wales, maintaining a focus on victims, prevention and the community safety agenda. Policing in Wales are keen to strengthen policy alignment and system integration between the devolved and non-devolved landscape, to build strength from how the PCC model has been delivered in Wales, enable a strong voice from a Welsh perspective, understanding that wider reforms are going to be building a stronger centre for UK centres but remember that the Welsh voice is a vital part of that, accountability being aligned with both funding and decision making and ensuring that any force is able to take account of any future announcements as Policing in Wales have been discussing the importance of a national and regional tier to future governance with a formal role for the Policing Partnership Board for Wales that is complementary to regional structures.

**2.3.** PCC Llywelyn stated that Policing in Wales have been contributing to the White Paper for around the last 12 months.

He reiterated the Chair's comment about being openminded with regards to devolution, as the White Paper is a rare opportunity for fundamental reform to take place for policing, adding that there are multiple commissions that have published papers which mention the opportunities that would arise in Wales through the devolution of policing. It is important to understand police governance alongside the potential devolution of Youth Justice and Probation, so he feels that there is a need to navigate through the activity as a significant amount of work will be undertaken in Wales on a partnership basis via both Policing Partnership Board for Wales and Criminal Justice Board for Wales, where each Criminal Justice partner and Welsh PCCs who chair their own Local Criminal Justice Board meet to discuss matters at a Welsh level.

PCC Llywelyn mentioned the unique funding position in Wales regarding Police funding as Precept and Council Tax levels in comparison to the Treasury funding via the Home Office is in the higher quartile, the four Welsh Forces are very often in the top 10 of the Precept percentage, which the New National Centre for Policing could worsen that position if there is any top slicing from force budgets.

**2.4.** PCC Mudd noted that she hopes the strength of the partnership working in Wales was evident from the discussions but she was also keen to make a point in relation to the different timeframes for some aspects of this work due to the election cycle in Wales, with the Senedd elections taking place in 2026 and the Local Government election in 2027, she feels it will affect the entirety of the WLGA representatives as opposed to a proportion of them, so there is a potential of a lot of change in Wales during those processes which makes the discussions taking place currently vital while there are people

with knowledge and experience to make effective contributions. She also asked the Policing Minister if it would be possible to shift away from the narrative of a failed experiment due to the detrimental impact that it has on the wellbeing of the experienced teams within OPCCs.

**2.5.** CC Blakeman advised that Chief Constables have taken an intentional position of neutrality in terms of the abolishment of the PCC Model and development of the new arrangements as they will be held accountable by any new arrangement but Chief Constables have been providing professional advice and guidance from an operational perspective based on governance models in place in other regions. She believes that they can learn from those in addition to a Chief Constables' responsibility within the law. The principle of operational independence is crucial as it underpins delivery of policing by consent so Chief Constables are in agreement that the new governance arrangements can't undermine that.

The Policing in Wales Away Day took place recently where PCCs, Chief Constables and Directors of Finance discussed governance options and there was a commitment to continue to work collegiately as proposals develop which was the same day that media articles were published in relation to the number of forces being reduced to as few as 12 in the UK. She acknowledged that it is a political decision but noted Chief Constables have vast corporate memory of previous experience and as such would have a lot of input to give in a discussion on this.

CC Blakeman acknowledged the previous comments about devolution, noting that policing remains a reserved service and it is relevant in the development of a new governance model as forces would find it difficult to be held to account by an organisation that doesn't hold any funding levers or responsibilities for policing.

In relation to the funding settlement that was published, the PCCs have a statutory obligation to set a balanced budget but this depends on what the settlement letter contains and whether forces have sufficient detail to set a budget, for some forces the deadline for the papers was a week prior to the settlement detail being available and as a result forces were seeking answers to many questions which they hope are detailed within the settlement so they can make the most informed decision as to how resources are utilised. The requirement associated with the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee (NPG) on specifics such as the airwave replacement funding and other centrally held funding streams are reflected in local force plans with no definitive date on when further settlement details are to be announced which can make planning and running an organisation on a long-term basis difficult, adding that being able to get ahead of the decisions would aid the progress of the Government missions such as recruitment for the NPG, the mission around VAWG, Sexual Offences Teams etc. as the amount of progress that can be made depends on the detail of the funding settlement. However, communities in Wales pay more than the funding settlement currently as Precept levels are different in Wales.

**2.6.** Sarah Jones MP acknowledged CC Blakeman's point in relation to funding and explained that the UK Government understands it is a difficult situation but due to the nature of the White Paper and the changes that it will create, there is a need to align the funding arrangements with the White Paper, so this year a high-level announcement has been published which is not standard practice and a more detailed announcement will follow in January 2026 but the hope is that further announcements will improve the situation overall in terms of the mix of workforce and capabilities required. The aim is to create a system where forces have more flexibility with their budget to achieve what is needed at a local level but the National Centre for Policing has more control generally.

In terms of the principles mentioned, she believes that there is a need to consider the upcoming challenges but agreed with the principles set out in terms of scrutiny, operational independence and that Wales has a strong voice in the model for Wales.

She responded to PCC Mudd's point regarding the language that is being used about PCCs and reassured that she has tried to be clear that it is about the change of structure rather than the people and the work that they have achieved but stated that she understands PCC Mudd's point.

**2.7.** CC Blakeman added that with all the events that are taking place at present such as the delay of the White Paper and the leaks into the media in terms of numbers of forces reducing, staff in forces are beginning to feel uncertain about their future in policing, so she is concerned that staff will leave and forces' ability to attract and retain talent when trying to deliver significant business critical pieces of such as halving VAWG, it is important for forces to be able to offer certainty.

**2.8.** Sarah Jones MP recognised CC Blakeman's point and advised that the UK Government are carrying out conversations with many different parts of the system where the same concern is being raised. The aim is to move through this phase successfully with a better model that can attract and retain the best people to work in policing.

**2.9.** PCC Dunbobbin stressed a plea for the Minister for Crime and Policing to be conscious of the Legislation in Wales such as the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act as he doesn't want Welsh legislation to be undermined.

**2.10.** The Chair concluded the item, thanking members for their contributions. She feels that there is recognition that Wales want to provide help with the transition in terms of policing and governance. She noted there is a great deal of support for the Policing Partnership Board for Wales as there is acknowledgement that it provides a measure of accountability to the Senedd as well as a bridge with UK Government.

### **3. Police Landscape Reform: Latest Developments**

The Chair invited the Minister for Crime and Policing to provide an update on the latest developments of Police Landscape Reform as Wales would like transparency and want to influence the work taking place.

**3.1.** Sarah Jones MP noted that the Home Secretary is relatively new into the role but they are building on the work that was done before. She feels that they are in a unique situation where there is agreement from many parts of the policing system in relation to what should be included in the White Paper. There are some aspects that are still being worked on, which is the reason for the delay in the publishing of the White Paper until the end of January 2026.

She added that the Home Secretary is keen to deliver as she wants to avoid reforming policing without substantive purpose so there is a need to be clear on the reason for reform. There is a piece of work regarding performance monitoring, the dataset that the UK Government is using has such a small amount of quality data to assist in collectively agreeing on the matters that policing should be holding themselves to account for, so there is a need to be able to communicate to the public that this significant reform work is taking place to achieve certain outcomes in return such as ensuring responding to VAWG, knife crime and theft etc. so there is a need to ensure the reform that takes place, supports and strengthens that to deliver the aspects that the public want to see.

She explained the main aspects that UK Government are having a National Centre for Policing that focuses on outlining the priorities and bringing together functions that have national or cross-border remit whilst also trying to find and procure efficiencies and work on all the technologies that they are aware that they need to drive through the National Centre such as AI. There is also a requirement to ensure there is accountability for the National Centre for Policing as it will be a significant body in addition to the interface with Wales as well as Wales as an entity into the National Centre.

She noted that the issues mentioned on data are crucial to allow a shared understanding of what good looks like and then how support is provided to forces that are not meeting those standards.

Sarah Jones MP mentioned that the Home Office provides the largest sum through the settlement for priority areas with additional funding given for targeted areas of policing such as county lines. The current system doesn't appear to be suitable for all involved due to the lack of local flexibility, the lack of influence the UK Government has nationally and the model doesn't work for the public to give communities what they need, so the UK Government are seeking to make it easier to run a good police force and to provide flexibility whilst doing that to achieve priorities from a national level but queried how that works for Wales as a nation.

She concluded by stating it is a positive in the way that the APCC, NPCC, the College of Policing and HMICFRS are aligned with regards to their view of police reform.

**3.2.** The Chair thanked the Minister for Crime and Policing for her update, adding that she recently wrote to her highlighting that Wales want to be involved in decision making prior to the publication of the White Paper, so it is positive that Welsh Government and UK Government Officials are working together as it is

developed. She re-iterated PCC Dunbobbin's point regarding Legislation in Wales and the work that has been achieved in Wales as a nation for 26 years.

**3.3.** CC Hobrough explained that as a group of Welsh PCCs and Chief Constables, the priority is to provide a first-class service for communities in Wales and to build trust and confidence. He expressed concern regarding the statement that all Chief Constables are aligned on police reform as he feels that this isn't a true reflection and added that there are some considerations that haven't been included in the proposal for example police reform isn't focussed on trust and confidence issues which also includes connectivity and engagement with local communities, he feels it is too focussed on operational effectiveness which is a significant risk as mentioned in Baroness Casey's review.

**3.4.** PCC Llywelyn wanted to stress that locally elected PCCs have contributed significantly to national work which has also contributed to significant procurement savings as he has sat on the National Police Air Service Board for the last 10 years as well as the Police Digital Service Board previously. With regard to the comment on Home Office funding being the largest sum through the settlement, he pointed out that communities in Wales are paying more for example approximately 55% of the funding in Dyfed Powys comes from local taxation which could be argued is greater than the Home Office contribution as the local community is paying for the service locally. He also pointed out that centrally delivered activity isn't always more efficient and effective and explained that he sat on the Project Board for the National Law Enforcement Database which is due to go live to replace the Police National Database but it has taken a considerable amount of time at significant cost so he stated that because this is delivered centrally, it doesn't necessarily equate to efficiencies.

**3.5.** Sarah Jones MP responded that with regards to the point about the Home Office funding, she was highlighting that Ministers are presented with an overall pot of money which they have no control over but there are smaller sections of the funding that they do have control over so she was outlining the situation whilst emphasising that the system is not suitable as it doesn't allow the Home Secretary any powers to set any framework of priorities or influence how the majority of the funding is spent. She added that if there are any significant issues then the Home Secretary would be responsible but locally forces are blamed as they are also restricted with how the systems work, which links to the points regarding connectivity with local communities, which is something that the White Paper is trying to address.

**3.6.** PCC Wools welcomed the Minister for Policing and Crime's comment about ensuring that there is a clear reason for reform and made a plea that in relation to the new National Performance Framework for Wales, the data is also seen in the unique Welsh landscape that forces are operating in is taken into account as mentioned in the letter to the Home Secretary a few months ago. In terms of the National Centre for Policing, there is also an ask that Wales is represented as a nation.

**3.7.** CC Blakeman stressed that there is strong collaboration taking place in Wales with regards to efficiencies with an All-Wales Collaboration Board, All-Wales and Tri-Force collaborations in place even with North Wales Police are involved in any possible collaborations to ensure efficiency, however they are concerned about drift of resourcing, particularly where there are large rural communities. She noted that Wales cannot lose its identity as it is a nation with its own culture, identity and language. The National Performance Framework holds partners to account where Welsh Forces are non-devolved working in a devolved landscape with partners that are devolved, so the governance arrangements have to be altered to work.

**3.8.** The Chair thanked the Minister for Policing and Crime for attending, stating that it has been a productive discussion and that the board's views have been heard. Wales want to be influencing reform instead of being consulted afterwards as they are keen to strengthen the good work that is already taking place in Wales. She noted that she would like to meet with PCCs in mid-January as the next PPBfW isn't until March 2026.

**Action: Welsh Government Officials to secure a meeting between the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip and Welsh PCCs for mid-January 2026.**

#### **4. Public Safety Priorities: Elected Members and Candidates**

The Chair advised that she attended the Home Office Inter-Ministerial Group for Safety, Security and Migration in November where she shared joint concerns in Wales on the Sentencing Bill with the need to provide additional funding to assist with monitoring and supporting individuals who would otherwise be in

prison. She also mentioned the forthcoming Senedd Elections and the challenging situation in terms of community relations and a new Electoral System, as a result of the Chair and the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government highlighting this issue, the Security Minister has agreed to extend Operation Ford to Senedd Members and Candidates. The Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government recently announced an independent review into Foreign Financial Interference into UK Politics following the Nathan Gill case and she noted that she realised that this is going to be challenging in the coming weeks and months.

## **5. VAWDASV Funding and Delivery**

The Chair introduced the item mentioning the launch of the 10-year UK Government VAWG Strategy was launched the previous day so Welsh Government are reviewing the strategy to understand the implications for reserved and devolved matters in Wales. There is potentially some funding available for Wales. The VAWDASV Strategy in Wales will need to be reviewed within 6 months of the Senedd Election and the hope is it will be aligned with the VAWG Strategy where appropriate to ensure maximum impact across nations. Welsh Government also welcome the publication of the second part of the Angiolini Inquiry and the recommendations within that. In addition to this, the White Ribbon campaign of 16 days of Activism against Gender-based violence took place in November.

She stated VAWG is far too common, women should be safe in all public spaces so Welsh Government will consider the findings of both the UK Government VAWG Strategy and the Angiolini Report. Welsh Government have delivered against their Programme for Government commitment to strengthen the VAWDASV Strategy to include a focus on violence against women in street and workplace as well as consolidating and enhancing the evidence base in the prevention of and response to public sexual harassment and other forms of harassment in public spaces in the Gender-based harassment all public spaces workstream. The work entails identifying effective interventions and reviewing recommendations across all agencies and communities developing a preventative whole-system approach to increase feelings of safety for women and girls.

The Chair feels one of the current challenges is the growth in misogyny and sexism in communities which has also been identified in schools with young people and online harm, so work is ongoing in relation to how this can be addressed.

She praised PCC Llywelyn as Dyfed Powys Police won a Safer Communities Award for their actions against stalking and VAWG.

**5.1.** PCC Wools welcomed the publication of the UK Government's VAWG Strategy particularly as it is taking a cross-cutting government approach and has a clear focus on prevention. She agreed with the Chair's comment that with cross-government commitment to some funding, responses and interventions will move from Home Office to the Ministry of Justice and potentially to other Government departments, so it is important to understand the implications for Wales, therefore she has tasked the VAWDASV Blueprint Delivery Team to engage with Welsh Government's policy team to draft an Impact Assessment for Wales.

**5.2.** DPCC Thomas stated that she is looking forward to working with colleagues in understanding the impact of the UK Government's VAWG Strategy. She provided a brief update on the Wales Sexual Assault Service (WSAS) Programme as it has been raised in the PPBfW on numerous occasions over the last year, there has been formal agreement from the NHS Joint Commissioning Committee for the transfer of the programme from the NHS Performance and Improvement team into the NHS JCC but she wanted to raise two urgent concerns, as a number of workshops have taken place to review the implementation of the work for the WSAS, three have taken place to date with a further two to take place in January 2026, however it has become clear that a significant amount of work is required in order to reach a point of delivery of the full WSAS and as a result of this, there is an urgent need to consider the resourcing in order to assist with implementation. There is an additional concern in relation to the provision of counselling services as it is evident there is inadequate time to undertake commissioning work for future successor arrangements to counselling services for 2026/27 to have those in place by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 so there is an urgent requirement to review an additional transition period for counselling funding to maintain the full envelope of provision to safeguard against vulnerable victims of Sexual Assault not being able to have access to support services. She advised that she will pick up urgent discussions with Welsh Government Officials and the JCC but wanted to raise it in the board.

**5.3.** The Chair responded that this will be discussed with Welsh Government Officials but reassured that she believes that counselling funding is being addressed.

**Action: Welsh Government Officials to confirm that the issue around counselling funding for WSAS are being addressed.**

She concluded by noting that work is still required as progress is being made but new challenges are arising, so work on VAWDASV must be seen as a priority, particularly with VAWG ambition in the VAWG Strategy.

## **6. Issues for Update/Noting**

### **6.a. Police Funding Settlement**

The Chair noted it was positive that CC Blakeman described the issues with the Police Funding Settlement whilst the Minister for Policing and Crime was in attendance. She advised that Jane Bryant is creating a written statement on the proposals for Welsh Government component of funding for PCCs for 2026/27 which include provision allocations of core revenue funding for each PCC in Wales.

### **6.b. Sentencing Bill Implications**

CC Blakeman wanted to highlight the impact in terms of the operational requirements for policing as well as the impact for communities in relation to crime rates is significant and the funding to be able to manage individuals in the community is not clear, so there are significant concerns about the implications of the bill. She noted that concerns have been raised in the appropriate forums as forces anticipate an increase in crime and an impact on policing's ability to be able to manage it without additional funding.

**6.b.1** PCC Wools advised that NPCC are undertaking a great deal of work on the impact for policing, as part of the work there is a national data collection process progressing to understand what the increased demand may look like both nationally and regionally.

### **6.c. Policing in Wales Meetings with Permanent Secretary and Director General for Health and Social Services**

PCC Wools stated that she met with the Director General for Health and Social Services along with CC Blakeman. The purpose of the meeting was to highlight the need to strengthen the relationship between policing and health due to a number of common areas that they need to work collaboratively on and navigating health structures can be challenging for policing but there was agreement in the meeting to establish an arrangement to forward plan with Senior Leads from both policing and health around shared priorities and to identify current issues and challenges.

### **6.d. Police and Education Collaboration**

The Chair advised that Welsh Government Officials are discussing how to formalise the new partnership and how any investment from Welsh Government could be prioritised. She believes there is an opportunity through the ethos of the Community-Focussed Schools Programme emerging as it is focussed on building strong partnerships with families and responding to the needs of communities. A further update will be provided in the new year.

## **7. Minutes of the previous meeting (23/10/25)**

All were in agreement with the accuracy of the minutes from the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025. The Chair provided an update on the action regarding a meeting with Sarah Murphy MS and Dawn Bowden to have a discussion around funding for WSAS, stating that this would take place in early 2026, in addition to arranging a visit PCSOs to view the role that they are carrying out in Welsh communities.

## **8. Any Other Business**

None raised.

## **Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – 13:00 to 15:00