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**COMISIYNYDD
HEDDLU A THROSEDDU
DYFED-POWYS
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

Christine Chapman AC/AM
Chair
Communities, Equality & Local Government Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
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26th February 2014

Dear Christine,

Thank you for your letter of 4 December 2013, concerning the Wales Anti-Human Trafficking Co-ordinator. Please accept my sincere apologies for my very delayed response.

You ask a series of questions, to which I have provided answers, as best I can, below. You seek views on:

- the effectiveness of the relationship between the Co-ordinator and the Police and Crime Commissioners;
- the effectiveness of multi-agency working between UK and Welsh Government departments;
- what mechanisms are in place for sharing intelligence between Police and Crime Commissioners and agencies in Wales;
- whether victim support services are adequate and responsive;
- whether I consider that awareness of human trafficking and how to refer victims into the National Referral Mechanism is consistent across police forces in Wales.

I'm afraid I had never heard of the Wales Anti-Human Trafficking Co-ordinator, so can only comment that it has not been a terribly effective relationship thus far, in terms of my office. I believe the police do work with the co-ordinator when appropriate. These occasions are relatively rare in Dyfed Powys, in single figures.

The effectiveness of multi-agency working between UK and Welsh Government departments is generally reasonable, in my experience. I am not aware of evidence that work between Welsh and UK government departments is any less effective than work between departments within those governments. That said, I very much doubt that it is better.

Police and Crime Commissioners and police forces meet regularly to share information and manage Wales-wide issues. Forces have embedded intelligence sharing arrangements between them, as they do with other UK and international forces. We also have a number of police collaborations in Wales, not least the Welsh Extremism and Counter Terrorism Unit (WECTU), Tarian (which shares intelligence to tackle organised crime) and joint firearms arrangements. We work with other agencies through a number of fora; too many, in fact. We

work with Local Service Boards, Community Safety Partnerships, Area Planning Boards, Supporting People Partnerships and Local Resilience Forums, to name a few.

Victim support services can certainly be improved. They are adequate and responsive but, like other services, are under financial pressure. Police and Crime Commissioners are empowered to act as the voice of victims across the criminal justice system and with local partners. Our funding is expanding to include provision of victims' services and restorative justice over the course of the coming financial year (2014-15). I believe these services need to deliver better value, become more targeted and provide more space for local providers. This is a particular concern in my, very rural, area.

I understand that the National Referral Mechanism works well as far as the police are concerned. I am not aware of any problems with its consistency or referrals from police forces in Wales.

I hope this helps with your enquires.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Salmon

Christopher Salmon
Police & Crime Commissioner