

Swyddfa Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu, Gwent

Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, Gwent

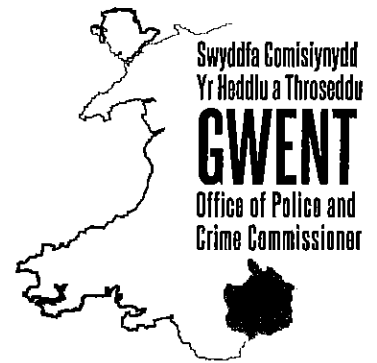
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Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu ar gyfer Gwent | Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent:
Ian Johnston QPM



The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
LONDON
SW1P 4DF

21st February 2013

Dear Home Secretary

HMIC/ HMIP Joint Inspection of Police Custody Suite

As required by statute, I am writing to you with my comments on the HMIC/HMIP report on Joint Inspection of Custody. I welcome the report which is generally positive and supports the feedback I have received from members of the Independent Custody Visiting Scheme administered by my office.

I was pleased that the report commended the strategic oversight of the custody function, well run suites, the proper treatment of detainees; consideration of vulnerable people and well controlled detention of people under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act; all areas which are of particular importance to me.

I acknowledge the concerns raised regarding primary health care and I have undertaken to look into this matter further on an all Wales basis along with my fellow Commissioners and colleagues in the Welsh Government due to the devolved nature of the provision.

Following a comprehensive briefing on the report, I have asked for a full report on the areas for improvement from the Chief Constable which I will consider at my monthly Strategy and Performance Board meeting in May. I will then follow this up with continued scrutiny and challenge.

I was particularly pleased to note that the custody operation was of a good standard and that two examples of work within Gwent were held up as good practice in the summary report re-published today.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Johnston', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ian Johnston QPM
Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Cc: Dru Sharpling, HMI