Swyddfa Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu, Gwent Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, Gwent

Pencadlys Heddlu Gwent | Gwent Police Headquarters, Croesyceiliog, Cwmbrân, NP44 2XJ

Ffôn | Tel: 01633 642 200

Ebost | Email: commissioner@gwent.pnn.police.uk

We | Web: www.gwent.pcc.police.uk

Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu ar gyfer Gwent | Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent: **Jeff Cuthbert B.Sc., MCIPD**

The Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP Home Secretary Home Office 2 Marsham Street LONDON SW1P 4DF



26th October 2017

Dear Home Secretary,

HMICFRS Assessment: Abuse of Position for a Sexual Purpose

As required by statute, I am writing to you with my comments on the HMICFRS Assessment: Abuse of Position for a Sexual Purpose.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the report which reflects the progress made by Gwent Police in their action taken towards the December 2016 HMICFRS recommendation; that within six months, all police forces in England and Wales should develop and begin to implement plans required to seek intelligence on potential abuse of position for a sexual purpose.

All forces were required to submit their plans to HMICFRS by 31st May 2017 and I am pleased to see that it has been acknowledged by HMICFRS that the plans submitted by Gwent Police, are comprehensive and reflect the national strategy agreed by the National Police Chiefs' Council.

These well-developed plans included a comprehensive internal communications and engagement campaign which took place over the summer and was targeted at all officers and staff. The campaign was to raise awareness within the service by both providing guidance and highlighting the definition of abuse of position, as well as providing advice on how to report concerns. Additionally, following a briefing from the Gwent Police Anti-Corruption Unit, the Connect Gwent Victim's Hub ensured that mechanisms for capturing and reporting any concerns from victims were in place.

I am satisfied with the work Gwent Police have done so far in this area of great importance. There has been a real emphasis on prevention. Raising public awareness and confidence in reporting matters of this nature is essential and it has been made clear that there is no place in Gwent Police for those who abuse their position for sexual or emotional purposes.

Both the Chief Constable and I realise that there is need for continuous development and an ongoing focus in this area, to which we are both are fully committed. I

therefore want to reassure you and the public that any reports of abuse of power will be dealt with swiftly and robustly in Gwent.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Cuthbert B.Sc., MCIPD Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Cc: Wendy Williams, HMI

Julian Williams, Chief Constable