


<b>Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision</b>	
PCCG-2016-076	Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision.
Subject	New Police Station for Caerphilly Town Centre.
Summary	To record the decision that I will be opening a new police station in the centre of Caerphilly.

## DECISION

1. In 2009, Gwent Police Authority approved the Estate Strategy that sought to provide an estate that was fit for purpose and address operational, statutory and building condition requirements. As Commissioner, I am now responsible for the Estate Strategy and am currently in the process of reviewing it in its entirety.
2. In September 2010 Gwent Police Authority approved the business case for the re-provision of police premises in Caerphilly Town Centre. The business case sought to provide a joint police and council provision in the planned library development (the old Post Office).
3. The timing of the library development meant there would be a two year period in which a temporary provision would be necessary and arrangements were implemented to move to the old Campaign Newspaper Offices on Market Street (opposite the planned library development). This enabled the release and sale of the old Caerphilly Police Station.
4. During the planning and design for the library development, it became evident that the requirements for the local policing unit could not be fully accommodated, as the council specification changed and therefore the Force had to reconsider the provision for public access as well as a provision for the operational police officers.
5. Furthermore, in April 2015 the force implemented a new operational policing model and the number of officers in the Caerphilly South area increased, which required the Force to consider its new operational policing accommodation requirements.
6. The temporary arrangement at the old Campaign Newspaper Offices remained until January 2016, when the front counter provision moved to the new library and the operational police officers moved to Bedwas Police Station. This was considered a temporary move pending the development of a business case to confirm an appropriate base for the long term.
7. After listening to the concerns of residents during my election campaign and since taking up my role in May, I have made it a priority to provide the most sustainable solution to policing provision in the centre of the town. I want to ensure that the Force provides an accessible policing service across Gwent, which adequately responds to local need and provides assurance to the community.
8. Discussions at my Estate Strategy Board on 25th July and 19th September 2016 followed by the agreement of a business case at the Board on the 28th November 2016, confirmed the proposal to establish a suitable provision in Caerphilly to house the town centre team which consists of 1 Police

Constable, 4 Police Community Support Officers and the Station Enquiry Officer. A further business case will be provided at a later date to consider the options for an operational base which will have more direct access to arterial roads.

9. I am therefore progressing the purchase of 62 Cardiff Road, Caerphilly and also applying for planning permission for the change of use and renovation work on what will become the new police station. My current expectation is that these new front counter premises will be open in the spring of 2017.

<b>Mr Jeff Cuthbert, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent</b>	
My decision is as I have recorded in this paper.	
Signed 	Date 8/12/16

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<b>Background papers</b>	Estate Strategy Board agenda papers 25 <sup>th</sup> July, 19 <sup>th</sup> September and 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2016.