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1. Introduction from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Gwent, Jeff Cuthbert



This strategy builds directly upon my priorities that are set out within my Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021.

The priorities are:

- 1. Crime Prevention;
- 2. Supporting Victims;
- 3. Community Cohesion;
- 4. Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB); and
- 5. Effective Service Delivery.

The Chief Constable and I are committed to promoting well-being and supporting vulnerable people across all communities within Gwent.

The aim of the strategy is to tackle vulnerability with a focus on peoples overall wellbeing. By taking into consideration the broad parameters of well-being, we will ensure that we identify, respond and support people who are vulnerable throughout their life course in a sustainable and integrated way.

Demand on our policing service has changed dramatically in recent years. The National Crime Agency (NCA) have stated that 'vulnerability based crime' is the UK's largest threat and this can be seen within our local communities across Gwent. For example, human trafficking, organised immigration crime, child sexual exploitation and the distribution of images of child sexual abuse are key emerging areas of priority that require an integrated, innovative, flexible and effective response.

We cannot tackle these crimes in isolation. Only through strong partnership working with other organisations and by putting the needs of the individual at the heart of what we do can we seek to provide the best possible quality of life for our citizens, in particular the most vulnerable.

The Well-being and Vulnerability Strategy 2018 – 2022, has been created in collaboration with Gwent Police, our key stakeholders and partners, and vulnerable people within our communities. The strategy has a one public service ethos to enable us to tackle vulnerability together by aligning our priorities and integrating our resources so that people get the best intervention and service they require and deserve, when they need it.

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2. Introduction from the Chief Constable of Gwent Police, Julian Williams



The Well-being and vulnerability strategy will ensure that the wellbeing of the most vulnerable people in our communities is at the forefront of all we do in Gwent police.

Crime is evolving, and we continue to see an increase in the reporting of incidents such as modern day slavery, human trafficking, child sexual exploitation, cybercrime and organised crime. Collaboration with our key stakeholders and partners is fundamental in delivering an effective service in line with changing demands and

current National threat.

The introduction of this Well-being and Vulnerability Strategy in conjunction with the RESPECT objectives will provide the platform for Gwent to ensure that vulnerable people are less affected by crime and ASB, they feel that Gwent is a safe place to live, work and visit and they have confidence in their police force. It will enable us as a service to identify offences and victims, respond accordingly and provide the necessary support for victims with the assistance of a multi-agency support network. The strategy, whilst delivering against the needs of people locally, will also deliver against the national priorities for vulnerable people, produced by the National Police Chief's Council . (NPCC)

I am very proud of the service and the people who work for Gwent Police; a workforce that strives to deliver the best service to our communities, ensuring the most vulnerable are protected and safe.

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3. Foreword from the Future Generations Commissioner, Sophie Howe

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4. The Importance of Prioritising Well-Being and Vulnerability

Creating our Strategic Vision

The PCC and Gwent Police have created a shared vision to deliver;

- The shared long-term commitment of the PCC and Gwent Police to consistently identify and support our vulnerable people and contribute to improving their well-being.
- The shared understanding that through clear leadership and robust accountability we can affect change.
- Our commitment to ensure that we have the resources available to respond to vulnerable people with the best quality services, when they need it.
- Our commitment to working towards a one public service approach through continually developing our partnership arrangement, whilst delivering against our statutory responsibilities. This will ensure we provide coordinated and person centred support and interventions.
- Our recognition that improving well-being and tackling the risks and threats that many vulnerable people face, is complex and multi-faceted, therefore our response must reflect this challenge.

The Motivation

Promoting individuals' well-being ensuring that people can lead happy, healthy and comfortable lives is essential and everyone's basic human right. Therefore, when these basic needs are not met due, to a range of reasons which include personal circumstances, personal characteristics or a situation a person finds themselves in, they become more vulnerable to threat, risk or harm (including abuse and exploitation). Where this occurs this has a detrimental effect, not only for individuals, but also within families and the wider community. One form of vulnerability can have a compounding impact and can lead to other forms of threat, risk, harm and abuse which can be life changing or life restricting.

It is our responsibility to better prevent, identify and respond to all types of vulnerabilities in order to be an effective policing service and meet the needs of the people of Gwent. However, we cannot do this alone. Working with partners across the public, private and third sector will be integral to making a difference to people's lives who are vulnerable in our communities.

Children and Young people : can experience a range of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) including all forms of child abuse & exploitation (online and direct

human trafficking and criminal exploitation

IMPACT : social exclusion.isolation, mental health, missing episodes, drugs/alcohol

offending behaviour.

Complexities and

connectivity of

Vulnerability



Identifiication of vulnerability

'blurred lines' understanding the correlation between adverse childhood experiences and personal circumstances that can lead to offending behaviours

Situational Vulnerability : people can be made vulnerable at any time.

Sex Worker

IMPACT: Drug and alcohol dependencies, mental health, non recent sexual abuse, criminality homelessness People with Mental health: Autism, Targets: mate and hate crime, fraud Victims/Survivors Violence against women, domestic abuse & sexual violence

IMPACT: Fatality, mental health, offending, homelessness , suicide, self harm, substance misuse

Looked after children, people living in poverty, and people with protected characteristics:

are often the target and vulnerable to; experiencing adverse children experiences, modern slavery and human trafficking, radicalisation and organised groups i.e. trafficking of people, drugs and firearms etc.

Older people : Targets for abuse, mate crime, fraud, corruption, coercive Control, neglect and ill-treatment'

Drug and Alcohol abuse – Complex hybrid of 'offender management ' and 'Victim support ', many fall into both categories (Links to ACE)

Policy and Legislation

Well-being and vulnerability is a theme that underpins a range of policies and legislation across England and Wales.

The legislation is delivered and supported through the following polices;

The Mental Health Act (2007), The Well Being of Future Generations Act (2015), Social Services, Well–Being Act (Wales) 2014 and Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act (2015) provides us with a unique opportunity to deliver what is required to those that need it the most.

In addition, the All Wales Child Protection Procedures and statutory guidance and protocols, tell us that to make a difference to the most vulnerable in our communities we have to work together.

With regards to UK Government and the Home Office, vulnerability is a pivotal part of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Serious Crimes Act (2015); Equality Act 2010, Police and Crime Act 2016; Modern Slavery Act (2015) and Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. Serious Organised Crime Strategy; Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST); Modern Day Slavery Strategy and Action Plan; Modern Slavery Police Transformation programme.

The Police are required to deliver against a range of priorities, these include; Home Offices' National Strategic Policing Requirements, National Police Chiefs Council and the 2025 vision; HMIC inspection and College of Policing strategic objective.

HMIC's Effectiveness 'Vulnerability' report, 2015 states ... 'identifying, protecting and supporting those most vulnerable are key indicators to effective policing.

This is not an exhaustive list.

5. Our Challenge

Image to follow.

In order to affect change, we recognise that we must provide a specific focus on vulnerable people. We want to ensure that we can confidently and consistently identify, protect and support people who are at threat, risk and harm.

Purpose and partnerships....

Add image at design stage

This strategy is to improve people's well-being through addressing and applying a one public service approach to vulnerability. This means, that we will work with key partners such as, local authorities (schools, social services etc.), the Health Board, the Fire and Rescue service and

the third sector towards a shared vision and purpose that will collectively improve the lives of the most vulnerable people in Gwent, including children and young people. To deliver this approach, we must implement the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 that creates a unique position for Wales in terms of shared goals and advancing partnership working under a one public service approach. 'Vulnerability in Policing?'

Add image at design stage

Well-being and vulnerability affects a wide range of people in a variety of circumstances. Within policing we can see this through reports of; hate crime; missing children; modern day slavery and human trafficking, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

(VAWDASV); exploitation and intimidation by serious and organised crime gangs, including criminal exploitation; mental health; scams and swindles of older people; neglect, ill-treatment and abuse of children and adults at Risk'; child sexual exploitation and specific focus on those most vulnerable who are within our looked after children and care leavers population.

What does the evidence say?

<mark>Add image at design stage</mark>

Through academic research, policy, legislation and practice, as a community we are more aware that people, including children and young people, can be more vulnerable and at risk of harm, abuse and exploitation for a range of reasons, such as, age, gender, ethnicity, disability or living in poverty. This

provides the evidence for our strategy and a person centred approach, which will identify people's needs first and offer the most appropriate response.

Complex nature of vulnerability...

Add image at design stage

It is essential to recognise people with additional or complex needs, especially those who share protected characteristic and are protected under the Equality Act 2010, are often the target of crime, abuse and exploitation. This strategy will work alongside the <u>Gwent PCC and Gwent Police joint</u>

<u>Strategic Equality Plan 2016-2020</u> and proactively work with these groups, such as our asylum seekers and refugees, Black, Asian, Minority and Ethnic communities, people with disability, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender and queer¹ (LGBTQ+) community. By recognising and responding in a person centred way, we will prevent discrimination and exposure to threat, risk and harm.

¹ Queer is an umbrella term for sexual and gender minorities that are not heterosexual or cisgender. Queer was originally used pejoratively against those with same-sex desires but, beginning in the late-1980s, queer scholars and activists began to reclaim the word.

Deprived communities...

Add image at design stage

There are often limited opportunities for people within deprived communities. The consequence of this can often mean that people feel limited in what they can achieve in life and what is available to them. This needs to change. This strategy will ensure that we work with all communities, but have

a particular focus on our engagement and presence within areas of deprivation. This will continue to improve our relationships and build community resilience and intolerance to all crime types, which work alongside the UK Governments Serious and Organised Crime strategy and framework.

Inspections and Reviews...

Lastly, the PCC and Gwent Police must ensure that we adhere to recommendations from inspections that Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) undertake.

6. **RESPECT: Delivering Against Our Objectives**

Vision:

To promote well-being through recognising vulnerability and providing accessible, consistent, high quality, responsive and trusted services that protect our most vulnerable people and contribute to improving their well-being and life chances.



ASB: Vulnerable people feel that Gwent is a safe place to visit, work and live: Vulnerable victims of crime and ASB are confident and able to access an excellent and consistent service. Vulnerable people are confident and empowered which creates resilience so that they are able to protect themselves. It is essential that this strategy meets the needs of the public. We have outlined below what we will focus on within the RESPECT objectives. These objectives are not independent. It is only through the effective delivery of each strand that vulnerable people in our communities will be; identified; listened to; understood; offered support, advice or interventions at the right time.

RESPONSE: We will work to an agreed definition² that puts people's well-being first across all police systems and processes. This includes; all victims of crime and ASB; people who have offended; and those that have been the subject of, or are at risk of, exploitation and abuse. We will ensure that we are an accessible service to all. We will look beyond and understand the behaviours people display in order to; identify risk earlier; respond better; investigate consistently and to a high standard. This will reduce re-victimisation and influence intergenerational change.

ENGAGEMENT: We will engage with the public in a range of ways in order to develop respectful and trusting relationships, which will enable vulnerable people to feel empowered and can seek help, advice or support. We will work with our stakeholders and partners to deliver a person centred approach to well-being and vulnerability. We will monitor success through the our joint Engagement Strategy.

SUPPORT: We will have consistent risk assessment processes and robust care pathways for all vulnerable people so they get the right support, intervention or advice when they need it. This will be achieved through strong and sustainable partnership arrangements and commissioning frameworks.

PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION: We will work with communities, public sector and third sector providers to increase awareness of vulnerability and illustrate the need to integrate our preventative approach to well-being and vulnerability that represents a one public service ethos. We will work with vulnerable groups within our communities who are more at risk of exploitation, harm and abuse to ensure they have the confidence, knowledge and resilience to identify earlier, seek help and access support when they want to. We will work with our academic partners to ensure our preventative approaches and interventions are evidence based and will effect positive and sustainable intergenerational change.

EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT: We recognise and identify that some people can have additional needs and vulnerabilities, which often means that they can be the target of exploitation and abuse. We will empower individuals to, wherever possible, to protect themselves and become resilient members of our communities through education, knowledge and effective interventions.

CONSISTENCY, CHALLENGE & CULTURE: We will challenge the culture of our organisations to ensure that all employees provide a consistent and person

² Please see the Annex that provides the definition of Vulnerability that is used within Gwent.

centred service. We will build trusting relationships across our communities so that we effect real generational change. We will also continue to constructively challenge and work with partners and the Welsh and UK Governments to develop robust policies that are underpinned by strong social values and cultures. All employees will be aware, understand and have the confidence to access the practices and policies available that protect and support their well-being needs.

TRAINING: All officers and employees will receive and participate in an integrated training programme that will produce a workforce that has consistent knowledge and skills. This will ensure all employees are able to; identify vulnerability; build trust; conduct efficient and consistent investigations and refer to the right intervention or support for people who are vulnerable.

7. Measuring Success

The PCC and Chief Constable are jointly committed to making a difference to the lives of vulnerable people in Gwent. In order to do this effectively we have set person centred outcomes. These are aligned to the outcomes within the effectiveness and legitimacy strands of the Gwent Police Performance Framework.

Effectiveness

- People who offend are prevented from offending, both virtually and physically
- Vulnerable people in Gwent are and feel less affected by Crime and ASB
- Vulnerable people feel that Gwent is a safe place to visit, live and work
- Vulnerable people are confident and empowered which creates a resilience so that they are able to protect themselves.
- Vulnerable victims of crime and ASB are confident and able to access an excellent and consistent service

Legitimacy

- Gwent police has the consent of local people
- Local people have trust and confidence that all voices of the community are listened too
- Gwent police are accessible to all and in partnership we create safe and cohesive communities
- Gwent Police is inclusive, ethical adaptive and accessible
- Gwent Police has an engaged healthy value lead workforce that truly represents the communities it serves at all levels

Governance

The PCC will produce an evidenced based assessment document aligned to the RESPECT principles that will be used to continual scrutinise and monitor the delivery and effectiveness of the strategy. The document will recognise and validate success, whilst equally indicating areas of development, trends, risk and challenges.

We will provide an annual report that will collate our activity and demonstrate how we are providing a positive contribution to the lives of vulnerable people that live, work and visit Gwent. The report will also emphasis on-going priorities facing vulnerable people, at a national and local level and document the steps we are taking to tackle them.

8. Annex

Why is Well-being & Vulnerability Important for the Public and Policing'?

Like any strategy, we must firstly understand what we need to do in order to make a difference to the lives of the most vulnerable people in our communities. Secondly, we must have information and evidence that demonstrates why we want to do it. The following points illustrate the range of reasons for the creation of this strategy;

Person Centred Approach

In Gwent, we have existing partnership arrangements that work together to meet the needs of the public by delivering effective services and interventions. These include; Public Service Boards (PSB), safeguarding and partnership boards and a serious organised crime group that work together to ensure that the most vulnerable are identified and are able to access help, advice or support, when they require it.

Well-being and vulnerability is a priority for all our partner organisation, which includes Local Authority, Health, Fire and Rescue, Third Sector and our Criminal Justice partners, such as National Probation Service, Wales Community Rehabilitation Company and Crown Prosecutions Service.

However, through child practice reviews, local policing operations, domestic homicide reviews, adult practice reviews and MAPPA serious case reviews, it is recognised that our vulnerable people are often the victims and equally the offenders of these crimes. Young people who offend provide a good example of where there are often blurred lines between victims and offender, as many young people are coerced and targeted into offending. This strategy aims to look beyond people's behaviour and understand their needs, risk and vulnerabilities, make informed decisions in order to help improve their lives. The recommendations from these reviews tell us that we need to;

- Share information better;
- Ensure staff have the best information, policies and procedures to make informed, evidence based and fair decisions;
- Ensure People receive sustainable and consistent preventative and early intervention approaches and services; and
- Agencies work better together to identify risk and vulnerability as early as possible.

This strategy will build on these recommendations through current partnership work, and provide services that are person centred. This will increase community resilience so that vulnerable people have the skills, tools and confidence to protect themselves and where necessary seek support.

Gwent Police Demand and Impact in Gwent

Demand on all police services within England and Wales has changed significantly over the past decade. Pressures on police time and resources continue to increase. Whether it is from the increase in recorded crime, more complex crimes being committed or a greater need to safeguard the vulnerable in society, the police, more than ever, are being called on to respond. Our officers and staff are being stretched like never before.(formatting).

Through the public consultation process that assisted the development of the Delivering a Safer Gwent Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021, it was evident that people in Gwent agreed that supporting vulnerable people was a key priority for our community. The types of harm and crimes that people suffer are far reaching, therefore our local intelligence and our approaches need to reflect this



We can't work alone

Prevention and Early Intervention: Adverse Childhood Experience

Public Health Wales' research into 'adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) shows the need to prevent harmful behaviour through childhood that impacts on peoples life course. The research illustrates that children who experience stressful and poor quality childhoods are more likely to adopt health-harming behaviours during adolescence which can themselves lead to mental health illness, more likely to perform poorly in school, more vulnerable and therefore likely to be involved in, or targets of, crime and ultimately less likely to be a productive member of society.

People who experience ACEs as children often end up trying to raise their own children in households where ACEs are more common. Such a cycle of childhood adversity can lock successive generations of families into crime, poor health and anti-social behaviour for generations. Equally however, preventing ACEs in a single generation or reducing their impacts can benefit not only those children but also future generations in Wales.

The research supports and enhances a range of other policies, legislation and practice, such as 'Families First programme' and 'Early Years' that advocate the need to focus our collective resources and efforts on early intervention and prevention of vulnerability. Whilst there is a focus on children and young people within prevention and early intervention, this is a much broader area of work. We are clear that we need to ensure that preventing harm of the most vulnerable includes older people, people with mental health issues, substance misuse use, care leavers, prison leavers, is part of prevention and early intervention. Creating collective care pathways and services that are accessible to people with a range of needs and issues is key to increasing well-being and reducing vulnerability.

Participation and Engagement

Community Voices

What Have People Told Us in Gwent?

It is essential that the views and needs of people in the community inform the priorities and focus of our work with vulnerable people. We utilised a range of consultations about the police service that had already been undertaken by the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Gwent Police and Partners to inform the priorities for us. In addition, a key element of this strategy is early intervention and prevention, therefore we spoke to a range of children and young people within school settings and groups that are vulnerable and have already had interaction and contact with the Police.

This is a summary of what the young people told us ...

Q1) When would you contact the Police? 25% of all the children and young people who completed the questions said they would contact the police if they were assaulted, a crime had been committed or they had been robbed.

Q3) Are there any reasons that you wouldn't contact the police (if you were in need of their help)? 31% of all the young people asked would have been prevented from contact the people because of threats, fear, or being prevented. What is concerning is that fear was the most common answers from the cohort of young people who were vulnerable.

Q5) What should Police Officers do to help people stay safe? Importantly, 19% of the vulnerable young people did not know what the police should do to keep them safe. However, the young people who were asked in the school environment wanted to see more police in schools and in the community. Q2) **Do you know how to contact the police?** 100% of the young people said they knew how to contact the police and stated 999, they did not state 101. A number of the vulnerable young people stated they knew how to contact them but wouldn't.



Q4) What should Police Officers remember when speaking to young people? 53% of all the young people surveyed told us that the officers must be calm. 30% of the vulnerable young people said that showing respect was the most important thing to remember, alongside using appropriate and polite language.

Q6) What type of support do you expect from the police? 17% of all the young people asked said reassurance, good communication and arrest the perpetrator. However, again many of the vulnerable young people did not know (11%).



Q7) What type of training should police officer have? 20% of the vulnerable cohort of young people said it was more important for them to have good communication skills and make arrests. This is in contrast to the response from other young people who indicated that it was most important that police officers were fit and could defend themselves.

What Does 'Listening' Look Like in Action?

The term co-production means working jointly with others. Therefore, it is essential that the people who have contributed feel that the strategy reflects and represents their views and opinions in a visible and meaningful manner.

The image and list below emphasis's the key things that the PCC and Gwent Police have embedded within the RESPECT principles after listening to the views of children and young people, including those that are more vulnerable due to experience and circumstance.



Actions

- ✓ Gwent Police must ensure that officers are alert to young people's reluctance to contact them because they are fearful of repercussion and threats.
- ✓ Gwent Police will ensure all officers and staff use appropriate and respectful language to build trusting relationship with young people, especially those that are vulnerable and have complex needs.
- ✓ Gwent Police will increase awareness of the support and advice available to anyone after an incident or crime has occurred and specifically to vulnerable young people.
- The PCC and Gwent Police will ensure they use appropriate language and a range of communication methods in order to better engage with children and young people, especially those that are vulnerable.

Professionals' Contribution

We also spoke to professionals and agencies throughout the process. The document is a PCC and Gwent Police strategy. However, we worked alongside our partner agencies to ensure that the strategy complemented and integrated their priorities and equally, reflects the range of expertise that has helped created this aspiration document.

List of Partners consulted;

Youth Offending Service – All five local authority areas represented. Missing Children's Hub National Probation Service Aneurin Bevan Health Board Safeguarding Business Unit – Adult and Children Violence against Women, Domestic abuse and Sexual Violence regional team Welsh Government – Policy lead for CSE and Anti-Slavery Home Office Wales Team Older Persons Commissioner Mental Health lead – Gwent Police Connect Gwent Coordinator – Lead for Victims for Gwent Police All Wales Police School Liaison Programme Go Girls and Brother Operation Quartz team– Gwent Police lead for CSE.

Definitions: What Do We Mean by Well - Being and Vulnerability?

The Meaning of 'Well-Being '

Well-being means a person is happy, healthy and is comfortable with their life and what they do.

The Welsh Government defines Well-being within the Social Service and Well-Being Act (2014) in eight parts:

- Making sure you have your rights;
- Being physically, mentally and emotionally happy;
- You are protected from abuse and neglect;
- You have education, training, sport and play;
- Positive relationships with family and personal relationships;
- Part of the community;
- Have a social life and enough money to live a healthy life; and
- Having a good home.

We recognise that vulnerability cuts across all ages, however there are additional challenges for young people who are transitioning into adult hood, particularly those leaving care. Therefore, within this approach 'children and young people' are categories between 0-25 years.

The Meaning of 'Vulnerability'

'Vulnerability' derives from the Latin word vulnerare (to be wounded) and describes the potential to be harmed physically and/ or psychologically. The Oxford Dictionary Definition of vulnerability is: 'Susceptible to physical or emotional attack or harm' a description which most people find themselves in at some time during their life.

We would consider a person as "vulnerable" and at risk if as a result of their situation, they become unable to cope with, resist and recover, from the impact of crime and/or anti-social behaviour thus leaving them overwhelmed and therefore their ability / capacity to protect themselves from harm is somewhat diminished.

Vulnerability, therefore, is a broad term which can be applied to victims of crime, ASB, hate crime and harassment.

Public Protection

Public Protection is a specific portfolio covering the following areas of vulnerability:

- Adults at Risk
- Child Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Domestic Abuse
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Forced Marriage
- Honour-based Violence
- Human Trafficking
- Managing Offenders
- Missing Persons
- Prostitution and Vice
- Serious Sexual Offences
- Stalking and Harassment

This portfolio is derived from the College of Policing National Curriculum http://www.college.police.uk/What-we-do/Learning/Curriculum/Documents/Curriculum_overview.pdf

However, we have added a number of categories to this list in order to response to the changing landscape of crime and anti-social behaviour across our communities, and reflect that association with vulnerable people.

This includes the following:

- Gangs;
- Serious and Organised Crime;
- Children and Young People;
- Anti-Social Behaviour;
- Radicalisation;
- Mental Health;
- Criminal Exploitation; and
- Hate Crime

Building on Gwent Polices' Foundations of Good Practice

Importantly, we are not starting from scratch. The previous Gwent Police and Crime Plan focused on victims and our ability to ensure that we respond effectively. Through this priority the PCC created 'Connect Gwent Victims Hub' and developed a robust range of services to support all victims, including identifying many vulnerabilities. This strategy will build on the solid foundations of support pathways and services, which are already working well together.

Gwent Police are responsible for effective delivery of the Police and Crime priorities within the Police and Crime Plan. Therefore, within this strategy, it is important to state Gwent Police's commitment to supporting all victims, inclusive of our most vulnerable. This can be evidenced through Gwent Polices 'good' grading from HMIC in their 2015 vulnerability review of effectiveness in Policing. In 2016/7, Gwent Police have also been rated as one of the most improved police services throughout England and Wales by the inspectorate.

The implementation of the 'CARES' programme set a consistent service approach and response to all people who are victims of crime in Gwent. More recently, Gwent Police published its Public Protection Vision Statement. This statement is outlined below. It provides a consistent message for staff and officers to ensure they are clear what needs to happen and be undertaken by all Gwent Police employees in order to be proactive and protect our most vulnerable.

- We will have effective leadership and lines of accountability across the 13 strands of Public Protection, both internally and with our partners
- We will have policies and operational guidance that clearly describe the definitions that we are working to and the specific end to end 'route map' for how we implement Approved Professional Practice in Gwent Police
- We will have a clear understanding of demand and be able to describe in detail the nature and scale of the threat, risk and harm to vulnerable people at both strategic and tactical levels
- Protecting vulnerable people will be seen and understood as a key priority for Gwent Police at all levels and in all areas. People will know how this relates to their role in the organisation and what is expected of them.
- The force will have a clear plan to ensure that officers and staff at all levels keep their professional knowledge up to date
- Officers and staff at First Point of Contact will be highly effective at identifying vulnerability and risk. They will ensure that sufficient information is gathered from the caller to make an informed assessment of the threat, risk and harm involved and they will ensure a proportionate response to the incident. Incidents and crimes will be recorded accurately from first point of contact and in any case within 24 hours
- Officers and staff attending incidents will put the safety of vulnerable people first, they will be well equipped to identify and mitigate risk.
- The force will have a clear allocation policy for all areas of public protection and the force will ensure that there is an appropriate specialist response where it is required
- There will be effective and joined up arrangements for working in partnership with statutory and third sector organisations in order to provide the best possible victim centred outcomes for vulnerable people.

Working Within our Existing Partnership Arrangements

We are already working with our partners across a number of multi - agency boards and formal arrangements which come together to deliver better outcomes for people in Gwent who are vulnerable, or at risk of abuse, harm and exploitation. This approach will further complement the work of the partnership boards by influencing and encouraging better joined up working of strategic and operational practices.

The range of Gwent and National partnership boards that influence this agenda;

Five Public Service Boards; Gwent Local Criminal Justice Board; Youth Criminal Justice Board; Safer Gwent Partnership Board; The South East Wales

Safeguarding Children's Board; Gwent Wide Adult Safeguarding Board; Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Board; Child Centred Practice reference group; Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC) Regionalisation board; Gwent Area Planning Board; Mental Health steering group –(Custody and Concordat); Gwent Anti Trafficking Forum; Equality and diversity Forums; Welsh Extremism and County Terrorist Unit and Regional Organised Crime Unit; Connect Gwent Steering Group; Missing Children's Hub Steering group; Gwent Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Management Board; Protecting Our Elderly Together Board; Gwent Sex worker Group ; Improving Outcomes – residential care and 3 Gwent YOS Local Management Boards

PCC and Gwent Police Specific Boards;

- All Wales Policing Group
- OPCC Executive Board
- Strategic Planning Group
- Strategy and Planning Board
- Equality and Diversity
- Performance Board
- Use of Force

Bibliography

The following provides a list of the legislation and national policy documents that have been consulted to aid construction of the strategy and referenced throughout.

Policing Reform and Responsibility Reform Act 2011 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents/enacted

Crime and Disorder Act 1998 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/37/contents

Children Act 2004 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/contents

All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008, and subsequent protocols and guidance beneath. http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/policy-document/wales-child-protection-procedures-2008/

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) <u>http://icchange.co.uk/about/about-the-campaign/</u>

United Nation Convention for the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/children-and-youngpeople/rights/uncrc/?lang=en

Her Majesty's Inspectorate Constabulary Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) Recommendations;

Effectiveness report 2015 (vulnerability) https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/wp-content/uploads/police-effectivenessvulnerability-2015-gwent.pdf;

Gwent Police's approach to tackling domestic abuse (2014) https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/gwent-approach-totackling-domestic-abuse.pdf

Everyone's business: Improving the police response to domestic abuse National Domestic abuse Everyone Business (2014)

https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/improving-the-policeresponse-to-domestic-abuse.pd

Missing Children (2016)

http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/wp-content/uploads/missing-children-who-cares.pdf

Social Services and Well - being Act 2014,

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2014/4/pdfs/anaw_20140004_en.pdf

Well - Being of Future Generations Act 2015

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/2/contents/enacted:

Modern Slavery Act 2015

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted

Ending Violence against, Domestic abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015;

http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mglssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=10028&Opt=0&AIID=17668

Ending Violence Against Women and Girls 2016

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Policing and Crime Act 2017

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Serious and Organised Crime Strategy 2013

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248645/Serious_a nd_Organised_Crime_Strategy.pdf

Counter Extremism Strategy 2015 (CONTEST)

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counter-terrorism-strategy-contest

Housing Act (Wales) 2014

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Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016. http://www.legislation.gov.uk/

Adverse Childhood Experience (Public Health Wales) http://www2.nphs.wales.nhs.uk:8080/PRIDDocs.nsf/7c21215d6d0c613e80256f490030c05a/d488 a3852491bc1d80257f370038919e/\$FILE/ACE%20Report%20FINAL%20(E).pdf

Police Vision 2025

http://www.npcc.police.uk/documents/Policing%20Vision.pdf

National Police Chief Constable - Child Centre Policing Strategy https://yiresourcehub.uk/yib-effective-practice/youth-justice-kits/item/347-child-centred-policingnational-police-chiefs-council-national-strategy-for-the-policing-of-children-young-people.html

Consultations and Engagement Documents

The following consultations and engagement documents were used to ensure that the voice of the community and their needs directly shaped the objectives of the strategy:

- Delivering a Safer Gwent Police and Crime Panel;
- Gwent Police Delivery Plan;
- Strategic Equality plan Consultation 2015/16 OPCC and Gwent Police;
- VAWDASV Needs assessment 2016/17;
- Gwent Police Your Voice;
- Consultation; and
- Connect Gwent Victims of Crime Young people's consultation 2017