



Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg yn ogystal â Saesneg.

This document is available in Welsh as well as English.

## **Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys response to:**

### **HMICFRS Rapid review into the policing of public disorder – Tranche 2**

I acknowledge the recommendations outlined in this report and will monitor the Force's progress in implementing them. The Force response to this inspection was discussed at Policing Board on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025. This is the forum at which I hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of policing services across the Dyfed-Powys area.

I have set out my thoughts and the reassurances I have received from the Chief Constable in relation to the recommendations below.

**Recommendation 1: With immediate effect, the National Police Chiefs' Council and chief constables should create a plan and begin work to improve how the police service collects, analyses and communicates intelligence about disorder. They should plan to:**

- **establish clear and resilient intelligence networks, functions and processes to help the police service respond to national emergencies involving disorder more effectively;**
- **test these arrangements, once they have been established;**
- **give National Police Coordination Centre strategic intelligence and briefing greater capacity and capability to support the police service in recognising, analysing and responding to information and intelligence on disorder, particularly at times of national emergency;**
- **prioritise the collection, analysis and distribution of intelligence on disorder and community tension;**
- **make sure that frequent, accurate and comprehensive strategic intelligence assessments on the threat and risk of disorder are reflected in public order public safety strategic risk assessments;**
- **revise how the police service classifies and collects intelligence on disorder to help it to better assess the threats posed, including whether intelligence categories such as "cultural nationalism" and "domestic extremism" are relevant and understood across policing;**
- **make sure each police region has an intelligence team or function that can assess the threat of disorder, which we suggest could be part of each regional information and co-ordination centre; and**
- **make sure that neighbourhood policing teams perform a central role in helping forces to better understand community mood, sentiments and tension.**

Dyfed-Powys Police has a well-established process for identifying and sharing intelligence relating to community cohesion and national emergencies. Daily scanning occurs by the Force Intelligence Bureau (FIB) prior to a Threat and Harm Briefing at 09:15. New intelligence sources and information on STORM, the FIB Inbox and NICHE relating to all threats including public disorder are reviewed at this briefing. Each Basic Command Unit (BCU) reviews their own intelligence relating to threat, harm and disorder to their area of responsibility.

Dyfed-Powys Police has two Network Investigators who have limited capacity to scan for unknown threats which are not raised through intelligence and information. This is a current gap in the intelligence collection plan. I will follow up with the Force to determine how they are seeking to address this.

During the Threat and Harm Briefing, the Chair will task staff relating to any high-risk harm or disorder for further development and to enhance the intelligence picture. Urgent information and intelligence relating to immediate Threat and Harm is escalated to the Gold and Silver groups for urgent assessment for an immediate policing response.

The Special Operations department capture and evidence any instances of high threat, harm and risk. They will also seek to identify persons of interest for further investigation and report back on any planned action with times, dates, and locations.

Any intelligence that requires sharing to wider staff internally can be done by via a Briefing Document (PowerBi) or Actionable Intelligence (AI) for all staff. Dorset Portal will provide a greater means of disseminating information to staff once the system is in place. I will follow up with the Force to check the progress of implementation of this system.

Any information required to be shared externally to other police forces can be done via the FIB inbox. Any urgent requests are circulated Force Incident Manager to Force Incident Manager depending on risk level and urgency.

Any urgent information that is required to be shared to members of the public is done with consent of the Force Daily Management Meeting Chair at 10:00 via the Corporate Communications team. In urgent cases, verbal authority can be sought in advance.

I have been informed that this information is then shared at 09:30 with the local BCU management briefing. Tasking to Neighbourhood Policing and Prevention Teams (NPPTs) and other resources can then occur by the local Chair. The BCU Chair can also consider whether a Community Tension assessment needs to be compiled and who the responsible Inspector for overseeing the assessment should be. This will assess the threat level locally and the level of tension within the community.

Any information and intelligence gleaned from any of the above assessments should be fed back into the central FIB (who would have identified a dedicated Field intelligence Officer (FIO)) to oversee the collection and dissemination plan.

Any escalation or threat would be fed into either Gold or Silver groups depending on the risk level.

Depending on the threat level, consideration is given to allocate an Operational name to the threat. This provides all staff with a single point to support intelligence collection as all information and intelligence can be collated in one single 'Occurrence' within NICHE. This also ensures that the information can be continually reviewed to assess the threat level and disseminate any new intelligence as required.

In high-risk cases a Gold group can be convened including internal and external partners to mitigate risk.

In extreme cases, the NPCC lead can liaise with Regional and National strategic intelligence services in times of Serious Public order or circumstances which are likely to result in a national emergency.

I have been informed that the FIB will collate data on low-risk public order issues on a weekly basis and share with BCU staff to ensure that NPPTs are engaged. I will directly ask the Force for updates on this to ensure that this is implemented in a timely manner.

**Recommendation 2: With immediate effect, the National Police Chiefs' Council and chief constables, working with the Home Office, should create a plan and begin work to better understand and respond to the risk associated with online content. They should plan to:**

- **make sure that at force, regional and national levels there is enough police capacity and capability to monitor, analyse and respond to online content;**
- **make sure that forces have capacity and capability to manage risk from online content through effective communication arrangements;**
- **identify the full range of technical solutions that the police service uses or could use to improve monitoring and analysis of online information and intelligence on disorder, and responses to it;**
- **review whether provisions within the Online Safety Act 2023 are fit for purpose to support policing in its response to disorder; and**
- **improve structures and arrangements for liaison and support between the police service, government departments and online service providers.**

I have been informed that the two Dyfed-Powys Police Network Investigators plan to visit the Regional Organised Crime Unit to establish what technical solutions, platforms and software are available to assist Dyfed-Powys Police in this area of business.

Dyfed-Powys Police work closely with the Local Authority Cohesion Teams who conduct regular online scanning.

At this time there is limited technical solution for the Network Investigators in this area. However, they do carry out scanning and research through online platforms should information or intelligence be reported relating to disorder. The Local Authority also carry out similar work and this helps to confirm and consolidate the work that the Network Investigators have undertaken.

There are good partnership sharing processes between the police and local authority and any intelligence received can be disseminated as per Recommendation 1. Information is shared via the Partnership Intelligence Form (PIF) directly to the FIB inbox and in Urgent cases via the Force Incident Manager to be placed on STORM.

Wider support from the Regional Organised Crime Unit can be obtained through the Regional Intel Group and urgent requests are done verbally.

The Online Safety Act 2023 is relatively new with some phases still being introduced in 2025. The Force have stated that a benefit of the Act is that online platforms will now have a duty of care which should make assisting the Police with enquiries and requests more efficient.

The National Strategic Intelligence Services and Home Office often send the FIB a request to report back with any intelligence and information should there be a nationwide disorder or a risk of a nationwide disorder. Researchers are responsible for sending back these returns and there is a working relationship in place. Network Investigators feed any intelligence and information gleaned to the researchers to ensure all up to date information is shared with relevant parties.

**Recommendation 3: With immediate effect, the National Police Chiefs' Council and chief constables, working with the College of Policing, should create a plan and begin work to improve how the police service investigates offences associated with large-scale disorder. They should plan to:**

- **revise the public order public safety Strategic Policing Requirement to include and specify the range of investigative resources that can be deployed when the national mobilisation plan is activated;**
- **make sure that senior investigating officers receive training and guidance to better manage investigations into widespread disorder;**
- **make sure that there is an investigation plan or strategy that can be used by all forces at times of a national police mobilisation to disorder; and**
- **make sure that all forces routinely carry out structured debriefs of suspects and offenders, to obtain potential evidence or intelligence about disorder.**

I have been informed that the Welsh Regional Information and Coordination Centre set out the mutual aid requirements for Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales Police when national mobilisation is required.

I have been assured that briefings for all Senior Investigating Officers will be undertaken in the next 12 months at the Senior Criminal Investigation Department conference. In addition to this, a Dyfed-Powys Police Public order investigation plan will be created and circulated to the Operations Planning dept for retention and use in the deployment of a national mobilisation plan. Guidance will be incorporated in this plan to ensure that structured debriefs of suspects and offenders, to obtain potential evidence or intelligence about disorder are routinely carried out.

I await further communication on these recommendations from the NPCC, Home Office and the College of Policing to ensure that their guidance aligns with Dyfed-Powys Police processes.

I am reassured that the Force have processes in place to ensure that information sharing is as efficient as possible. I am also encouraged that the Force are working closely with partners to strengthen the intelligence picture that they obtain.

I am grateful for the publication of these recommendations. My team and I will continue to work closely with Dyfed-Powys Police representatives to ensure all relevant learning from insights generated through HMICFRS activity is acted upon to improve the policing service for the residents of the Dyfed-Powys area.