



Police Accountability and Legitimacy Group (PALG)

Microsoft Teams

19th June 2023

Attendees	
Police & Crime Commissioner Team	
Suzi Graham (SG)	Policy and Research Officer (Scrutiny and Equality)
Lee Jones (LJ)	Chief Executive
Charlotte Amoss (CA)	Strategic Lead – Scrutiny, Assurance & Equality
Tamara Lafferty (TL)	Governance Support Officer
Paula Hardy (PH)	Strategic Lead – Vulnerability & Victims
South Wales Police	
Superintendent Jason Rees (JL)	Head of Public Service Centre Operations
Superintendent Clayton Ritche (CR)	Safeguarding & Public Protection
Carol Woodward (CW)	Assurance and Inspection Manager
Martyn Jones (MJ)	Equality Diversity & Inclusion Manager
PALG Partner Members	
Liz Baker (LB)	Barnardos
Angelika Pastuszko (AP)	Adferiad Recovery
Catherine Docherty (CD)	Salvation Army
Nicky Nijjer (NN)	EYST
Laura Morgan (LM)	Adferiad Recovery
Raphaelle Sharples (RS)	Adferiad Recovery
Mike Dix-Williams (MDW)	Victim Support
Paul Dear (PD)	Welsh Government
Leila Usmani (LU)	Race Alliance Wales
Sara Kirkpatrick (SK)	Welsh Women's Aid
Ebed Akotia (EA)	Cardiff Third Sector Council
Lu Thomas (LT)	Gypsy Traveller Wales
PALG Independent Members	
Alex Drummond (AD) (CHAIR)	Independent Member
Tony Esmond (TE)	Independent Member
Soraya Kelly (SK)	Independent Member

	Item	Content
1.	Welcome & Introductions	1.1 AD welcomed attendees and introductions were made.
2.	Minutes of the last meeting	2.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed. 2.2 TL confirmed that all previous actions have been completed save for certain actions from the September 2022 PALG meeting which are ongoing. TL shall update PALG at the next meeting. ACTION

		<p>2.3 TL confirmed that the offer for PALG members to attend a Custody Suite visit remains open. Anyone who wishes to attend should contact TL. ACTION</p> <p>2.4 TL confirmed that the offer to join the Focus Group to review the PALG accessibility documents remains open. Anyone who wishes to attend should contact TL. ACTION</p>
3.	Domestic Abuse: Initial Response	<p>3.1 JR provided a presentation of South Wales Police Public Service Centre (PSC). JR confirmed that there is an open invitation to PALG for anyone interested in attending the PSC to see how it is run. Anyone who wishes to attend should contact TL. ACTION</p> <p>3.2 JR explained that the PSC is a single control room for South Wales Police and provided statistics on the yearly number of calls dealt with by the PSC. JR explained how the PSC utilises digital services such as social media and email for the public to report incidents.</p> <p>3.3 JR explained that the PSC is the first point of contact for all incidents. JR provided an overview of the 2 main phases involved with the PSC: initial contact and dispatch. JR described the methods used by the public for initial contact including 999, live chat, 101, email and attendance in person.</p> <p>3.4 JR provided an overview of the process that PSC follows to risk assess and grade incidents. JR explained how typical domestic violence cases are assessed and graded. JR described various structures in place that allow for scrutiny and oversight of the PSC function.</p> <p>3.5 CR presented an overview of the control strategy used for Domestic Violence cases including communication, building rapport, and working with external partners to provide support. CR explained that recently there is a higher focus on methods to change and prevent perpetrators behaviour. CR invited members to comment on communication strategies South Wales Police can use with perpetrators.</p> <p>3.6 The PALG attendees separated into breakout rooms to discuss the presentation and were invited to provide feedback.</p> <p>3.7 The general feedback and recommendations from PALG included the need for South Wales Police to understand cultural competency to build community trust and engage with those who are averse to reporting to the Police. The group discussed the benefits of South Wales Police understanding the reasons why victims do not want to pursue cases and the importance of bringing in specialist support to victims / perpetrators at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>3.8 The group discussed the potential for perpetrators to use fear of reporting to their advantage and repercussions from other agencies such as Social Services. Queries were raised in relation to the benefits of over criminalisation of parents and the detrimental effect on children.</p>

		<p>3.9 The group had discussions regarding the barriers for marginalised community reporting and the importance of working with victims / perpetrators even in cases of 'No Further Action'. The feedback highlighted the importance of Police Officers adopting a consistent approach and risk of Police Officer's experiencing fatigue and 'risk blindness'.</p> <p>3.10 The group discussed Kent Police's use of a 'rapid video response' (RVR) within Domestic Violence cases and the possibility of a similar mechanism being used by South Wales Police.</p> <p>3.11 The group discussed what South Wales Police is doing in relation to sexual abuse when the victim is from an ethnic minority background and the extensive campaign around 'Valerie's Law'. CR provided an overview of the current position of South Wales Police and focus on accurate recording of information.</p>
4.	<p>Scrutiny & Accountability Deep Dive – Domestic Abuse Group discussion and feedback on the next topic.</p>	<p>4.1 CA provided an overview of the upcoming Scrutiny & Accountability Board Deep Dive and confirmed that the topic will be on Domestic Abuse.</p> <p>4.2 CA confirmed that the team will utilise the PALG responses from this meeting within the Deep Dive research. CA confirmed that TL will contact PALG members to arrange Focus Group sessions to gather more feedback on this area. ACTION</p> <p>4.3 CA provided a general overview of the topics for upcoming PALG meetings and a potential PALG conference. CA invited members to raise any areas of interest so that this can be incorporated into the schedule.</p>
5.	<p>5.Partner Updates and Issues to Raise</p>	<p>5.1 NN shared that EYST run a youth club in Swansea but are hoping to roll this out to Wrexham, Newport, and Cardiff. NN invited PALG members to get in touch with them regarding sponsorship of the youth club or trips / activities. SG will connect NN with the Violence Prevention Unit. ACTION</p> <p>5.2 LU shared that they are currently working to create a research brief to provide to Welsh Forces and Police & Crime Commissioners regarding the disconnect between Stop and Search and Stop and Account, especially focussed on the perception of community members. LU invited members to contact her with any information or literature-based sources on this area.</p> <p>5.3 SK raised that it would be useful if South Wales Police to provide information regarding the steps that they have taken around Police Perpetrated Abuse.</p> <p>5.4 TL to send an email to PALG members containing these partner updates. ACTION</p>
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p>	<p>6.1 TL shared that the Scrutiny, Assurance & Equality Team at the PCC's office hoping to arrange 'volunteer days' whereby a team member attends a PALG member's organisation for volunteer work. TL shall email PALG members in the coming weeks to gather interest. ACTION</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCC Team Volunteer Days 	6.2 No one raised any other business. AD thanked attendees and closed the meeting.
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Action Table

Action	Owner
TL to provide updates of 2022 Actions regarding Hate Crime at next PALG meeting.	TL
Members who wish to attend a Custody Suite Visit to contact TL.	Members
Members who wish to attend the Focus Group regarding the PALG accessibility documents to contact TL.	Members
Members who wish to attend a visit to the Public Service Centre to contact TL.	Members
TL to send email to PALG containing partner updates.	TL
SG to contact NN regarding Violence Prevention Unit.	TL
TL to contact members regarding Deep Dive Focus Group sessions.	TL
TL to contact members regarding PCC Team Volunteer Days.	TL

