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**Powys Community  
Safety Partnership**



**Partneriaeth Diogelwch  
Cymunedol Powys**

Cadeirydd / Chairman County Councillor Graham Brown, Neuadd Sir Powys County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys. LD1 5LG

Roger Chaffey  
Social Justice & Regeneration Committee  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Ffôn/Tel: 01597 82 6596 ffacs/FAX: 01597 82 6208

E-bost/E-mail [louisak@powys.gov.uk](mailto:louisak@powys.gov.uk)

Eich cyf/Your ref:

Dyddiad/Date: 27<sup>th</sup> October 2005

Os yn galw gofynnwch am/

If calling please ask for : Louisa Kerr

Dear Roger

I write on behalf of the Powys Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in response to your letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> September seeking written comments relating to the restructuring of Constabulary in Wales

There is a real concern that re-distribution of resources will occur to the benefit of urban areas and to the detriment of rural areas like Powys. The Powys CSP would like to emphasise that there is a need to ensure that rural environments, that are striving to make an impact on already existing low crime figures, are properly resourced to achieve negotiated targets.

Secondly, there is a certain amount of local identity with the current structure that will need to be tackled sensitively. In the eventuality of any force combination, Powys CSP would wish to retain a Mid Wales identity particularly due to the co-terminosity of current good working practices and community feeling associated with this.

The Powys CSP also feels that it is vital for the Basic Command Unit (BCU) structures to be retained and even strengthened, together with the tools and resources available to deliver neighbourhood policing and the mechanisms for partnership working. Without the retention of the Powys BCU, the Powys CSP questions the impact on target setting when there is already a feeling that not enough local autonomy exists in order for the CSP to allocate resources where they are needed. Therefore, the CSP stresses that in the restructuring process, the Police Reform White Paper proposals for BCUs are taken into consideration.

Finally, there are concerns that an all Wales Police force would result in a change in police accountability. It is clear that cross-border crime is a major issue for Powys and therefore devolved powers in this context could complicate effective cross border

working. Working concurrently in non-devolved and devolved areas will also most certainly impact negatively on CSP target setting and funding streams.

I hope that these observations will be of assistance to the review that the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee is carrying out.

Yours sincerely



Louisa Kerr

Powys Community Safety Officer