



VC17

# Heddlu Dyfed-Powys Police

*Yn diogelu ein cymuned ~ Safeguarding our community*

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*Eich cyf. / Your ref :*

*Ein cyf. / Our ref* CC/LCO 3/WACPO response.

3 November 2007

Dear Ms Sinclair,

## Consultation – The Proposed Vulnerable Children LCO Committee

I respond to your letter dated 28 September 2007, inviting evidence to be submitted on the Proposed Vulnerable Children Legislative Competence Order. I write on behalf of the Association of Chief Police Officers in Wales (WACPO), as the Chief Officer lead in respect of Child Protection matters. Accordingly, this response should be taken to represent the views of the whole police service in Wales.

Comment is invited on three questions in particular:

1. WACPO believe that the terms of the proposed order should allow for the implementation of policy agenda on vulnerable children and child poverty by means of measures in accordance with the documents, *Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under the Children Act 2004*; and *Rights in Action: Implementing Children and Young People's Rights in Wales*.
2. WACPO agree that the terms of the proposed order have been drafted appropriately.
3. There is no statutory definition of 'well being'. The Children Act 1989 introduced the welfare checklist that a court shall have regard to in certain circumstances. The 1989 Act states that a 'court shall have regard in particular' to certain issues. WACPO support the definition of 'well being' as consistent with the welfare checklist referred to above. WACPO agrees with the meaning of 'social care' in the proposed order, which clarifies further the definition contained in HM Government *Working Together to Safeguard Children* document.

Mr. Terence Grange, MSc ~ Prif Gwnstabl/Chief Constable

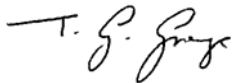
*Mae Heddlu Dyfed-Powys yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.  
Dyfed-Powys Police welcomes correspondence in either Welsh or English.*



4. WACPO agree that the exceptions from the scope of Matters 15.1 – 15.8 are appropriate, on the basis of current funding arrangements with the Treasury.

The four Welsh Police Forces support the proposals set out in the LCO and agree that the terms and scope of the order are appropriate. The order will assist in improving consistency in legislation and regulation relating to the welfare of vulnerable children and young people in Wales and it will bring about greater clarity for Police Forces and Local Government. The LCO will also enable coherent proposals to be progressed through the 'All Wales Collaboration on Public Protection' for the Police Service in Wales in the context of Investigating Child Abuse and Safeguarding Children.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Grange', written in a cursive style.

Terence Grange  
Chief Constable Dyfed-Powys Police