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| **Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision** | |
| PCCG-2024-019 | Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision |
| Subject | Annual Review of Gwent Police’s Gifts and Hospitality and Business Interests 2023/24. |
| Summary | To record the decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding Gwent Police’s gifts and hospitality and business interests for 2023/24. |

**DECISION**

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| 1. | The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) has undertaken a review of Gwent Police’s gifts and hospitality and business interests registers along with compliance against policy for 2023/24. |
| 2. | The registers are maintained as normal business practice by the Professional Standards Department and are subject to audit by His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS). |
| 3. | Undertaking this review provides assurance that Gwent Police comply with its policies for both gifts and hospitality and business interests and allows the OPCC to query and request clarity on approved or denied requests. |
| 4. | Any business interests declared by the Chief Constable were approved by the Chief Executive with oversight provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). They are held on the OPCC business interests register and are reviewed on an annual basis. |
| 5. | Any gift or hospitality accepted or declined by the Chief Constable is recorded on the force gifts and hospitality register held by the Professional Standards Department (PSD). All gifts and hospitality forms are approved by the Chief Executive or PCC. |
| 6. | Whilst undertaking the review of both registers a number of queries/requests were raised, examples of the areas raised and the response from PSD are included below.  In relation to the business interests register, we queried the process followed when appointing a consultant to undertake work and how the force identified where there was a conflict of interest. We were advised that terms and conditions had been established with procurement that ensured relevant questions were asked prior to appointment.  We also queried the number of business interests refused, the number of appeals received, as well as requesting assurance that the process for line managers to monitor business interests had been implemented.  On review of the gifts and hospitality register, it was noted that there were some quarters of the financial year where entries were low, and we queried how often staff were reminded to submit them. PSD informed us that there was a question contained in the six-monthly personal development review process as well as information being provided at various sessions held during the year.  It was also noted that there continued to be minimal entries on the gift and hospitality register for chief officers. This was again queried, and we were informed that a new process would be established with the Chief Officer Executive Support Team (COEST) to ensure they were provided in a timely manner to PSD. |
| 7. | As a result of the review, I am satisfied that all declarations by officers and staff have been made within the boundaries of acceptability in accordance with the relevant policies and procedures. Any comments or queries arising from the OPCC review have been provided to the PSD and a response received. Compliance with previous requests will be considered as part of future reviews. |

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| **Jeff Cuthbert B.SC., MCIPD, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent** | |
| I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.  Any such interests are recorded below.  The above decision log has my approval.  Please note: This report has been signed by the CEx on behalf of the previous PCC as per Part 3c, Scheme of Consent and Delegation, Paragraph 9 of the Manual of Corporate Governance. | |
| Signed | Date 05/03/25 |

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| **Background papers** | Gwent Police Gifts and Hospitality and Business Interests Registers 2023/24 |