# **Public Protection Gwent Police**

The force has Public Protection Units based East and West of the Force- These are made up of specialised trained Detectives (SCAIDP- Serious Child Abuse Investigations Development Programme). Serious and complex, intra-familiar, professional abuse investigations along with sexual abuse crimes committed against children under the age of 13 Years will be picked up through these teams. The force has a clear and robust plan in place to ensure Detective resources and staffing is prioritised within these areas. Each area has clear lines of supervision- made up of Detective Chief Inspector/ Detective Inspector /Detective Sergeants. Multi- Agency Safeguarding hubs are in place for each Local Authority- this allows quick time strategy meetings to be held between relevant agencies to determine ownership and involvement. We also have exploitation teams both East and West of the force - Operation Quartz- These manage cohorts of children subject of Child Sexual and criminal exploitation. Recently restructured Missing Childrens Teams/coordinators are also Integrated into these teams.

The force has a central Public protection Dept. which is responsible for Domestic Abuse victim safeguarding, Managing Clare Law applications (Domestic Violence Disclosure scheme) . MARAC arrangements (Multi- agency risk assessment conference).

A dedicated team is in place to monitor and manage Serious sexual and violent offenders.

Gwent is an expansion Operation Soteria force and has invested in a dedicated Rape Investigation Team. This provides dedicated trained staff to investigate and support victims of rape working in conjunction with the National Soteria team 6 pillars – Suspect Focussed, Disruption of Repeat Offenders, Embedding systematic procedural justice to victim engagement, enhanced specialised Learning and development programme. Using data led performance to monitor and evaluate and understand Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO) outcomes, enhanced digital forensics to support investigations. Outcome and victim satisfaction has shown great improvements since the teams’ inception.

All of the above areas and strands of Public Protection have oversight by an experienced Detective Superintendent.

We have a force Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) action plan in place, however this spans the whole force not simply Public Protection due to the nature of Violence against Women and Girls offences - The force has a dedicated regional resource who can provide a detailed insight to the ongoing work.

We have a Police Online Investigation Team (POLIT) the nature of the investigations they pick up are intrinsically linked to Child, vulnerable victim and wider public protection. Significant investment has been made in this area by Chief Officers to ensure staffing, enhanced training and equipment is a priority due to the ever increasing demand and trajectory in this field of criminality.

Domestic Abuse and RASSO scrutiny panels are held monthly, attended by Crown Prosecution Service and Victim engagement officers to ensure a broad oversight of any learning.

When up to strength there are in the West Public Protection Unit, 21 Detectives - 3 Detective Sergeants, 1 Detective Inspector and 1 Detective Chief Inspector. In the East there are 14 Detectives with the same supervision ratio.

In relation to the Rape Investigation Team there are 16 Detectives, 1 Detective Inspector, 4 Detective Sergeants, 4 Police Staff Investigators and 7 Sexual Offences Liaison Officers (This is until we can fill vacancies and abstractions for Detective Constables we are managing on a hybrid Detective Constable/ Police Constable model as an interim measure).