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NOMS Gwasanaeth Cenedlaethol
Rheoli Troseddwyr

National Offender
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Offender Management Service Wales / Gwasanaeth Rheoli Troseddwyr Cymru
National Offender Management Service / Y Gwasanaeth Rheoli Troseddwyr Cenedlaethol
Welsh Assembly Government / Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru

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By email

4 November 2005

Carol Bernard CBE

Director of Offender Management Service Wales

Our ref / ein cyf: M073

Dear Mr Chaffey

SOCIAL JUSTICE & REGENERATION COMMITTEE: Restructuring of Constabulary

Thank you for your letter of 28 September which was forwarded to me by Claire Griffiths on 26 October, inviting comment on the Restructuring of Constabulary.

I hereby provide a written submission setting out the views of NOMS Wales. I would welcome the opportunity to make an oral presentation to the Committee.

We fully support the proposal for an all-Wales Police Force. Part of the role of NOMS Wales is to reduce re-offending through working with key partners such as the Police, Criminal Justice Agencies, Prisons and Probation. It would provide a coherent approach to both Home Office and Assembly joint working to tackle crime, the determinants of crime and reducing re-offending for Wales. There remains a strong need to retain the Basic Command Unit infrastructure. The Reducing Re-offending agenda requires this as a backdrop to real delivery of offender management in the community, especially for public protection issues such as PPO's, MAPPA and Drugs. This would also ensure that Local Government's relationship with the Police forces is on a consistent basis throughout Wales whilst taking account of specific local needs.

Co-terminosity is of the utmost importance in developing a strategic approach to criminal justice and reducing re-offending. Therefore any decisions on the regional configuration employed to support the overarching structure will have significant implications for the organisation of criminal justice agencies such as NOMS. As such I would welcome the opportunity for on-going dialogue on these issues.

I hope these comments are useful. I am happy to discuss these issues if necessary.

Yours sincerely

Carol Bernard CBE

Director of Offender Management Service Wales