



HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE

Pencadlys yr Heddlu | Police Headquarters
Glan-y-Don, Colwyn Bay, LL29 8AQ

11th December 2024

Dear Hannah,

I write in response to your letter dated the 2nd of December 2024 following my attendance at the Standards of Conduct committee.

The Police support Returning officers and the management of elections in Wales. The resources usually come from each forces Economic Crime Unit (ECU) as they have the required expertise and knowledge to deal with such incidents.

Each force will provide a Detective Sergeant or above to undertake the role of election single point of contact (SPOC). Training for the role is provided by the City of London Crime Academy election offences training.

Once suitably trained the relevant Officers have responsibility for the following:

- Engaging with the Electoral Commission for Wales and the electoral service manager.
- Engaging with other Police SPOC to ensure a consistent approach across Wales.
- Engaging with local authorities to identify any communities or locations vulnerable to electoral malpractice.
- Work with Tarian to provide Cyber protect advice to relevant stake holders in advance of any election.
- Provide briefings to all candidates, agents and police personnel to outline relevant legislation as well as advice on how to manage appropriate contact during an election period.
- Investigate each offence reported to police and any subsequent offences that may be uncovered during the initial report.

SPOC's attend a number of meetings in the several months leading to any election. These officers will see a significant increase in workload 2 months prior to any election. Within this time, they spend a minimum of 4-5 hours a day dedicated to this role in addition to managing their usual role. This is purely around preparation.

Any additional investigations that arise such as complaints or appeals will be managed by other members of staff. Quite often due to the public profile of the individuals involved there is a requirement

Pencadlys yr Heddlu,
Glan-y-Don, Bae Colwyn LL29 8AW
www.heddlu-gogledd-cymru.police.uk

Police Headquarters,
Glan-y-Don, Colwyn Bay LL29 8AW
www.north-wales.police.uk

Yn gwneud Gogledd Cymru'r lle mwyaf diogel i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld yn y DU
Making North Wales the safest place to live, work and visit in the UK

for senior officers to have responsibility for these cases. This is to ensure the investigation progresses in an effective and timely manner.

Below is a breakdown of the number of complaints made to police across Wales and the subsequent outcomes whether they be caution or prosecution.

Date	No of Complaints	Caution	Prosecution
2008	5	1	0
2010	2	0	0
2011	2	0	0
2012	9	0	0
2014	2	0	0
2015	6	0	0
2016	4	0	0
2017	29	2	0
2018	4	0	0
2019	6	0	1
2020	8	0	0
2021	1	0	0
2022	6	0	0
2023	2	0	0
2024	25	1	0

It should be highlighted that the above chart does not include any outcomes whereby words of advice has been given. In addition, the figures do not accurately reflect other demand that will arise from such investigations. These will include support from the force's communication teams and any times reviewing challenges in relation to outcomes.

I hope that this provides the additional information you were looking for.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Blakeman KPM
Chief Constable
North Wales Police

Pencadlys yr Heddlu,
Glan-y-Don, Bae Colwyn LL29 8AW
www.heddlu-gogledd-cymru.police.uk

Police Headquarters,
Glan-y-Don, Colwyn Bay LL29 8AW
www.north-wales.police.uk

Yn gwneud Gogledd Cymru'r lle mwyaf diogel i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld yn y DU
Making North Wales the safest place to live, work and visit in the UK