

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
THE WELSH LANGUAGE (POLICE NAMES) ORDER 2012

2012 No. 2606

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Home Office and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
2. **Purpose of the instrument**
 - 2.1 The Welsh Language (Police Names) Order 2012 prescribes the official Welsh language names of the four Police and Crime Commissioners (“PCCs”) and the four Chief Constables in Wales.
3. **Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments**
 - 3.1 None
4. **Legislative Context**
 - 4.1 Section 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (“the 2011 Act”) establishes a PCC for every police area in England and Wales, outside London. Under section 1(3) of the 2011 Act, the official name of a PCC is “the Police and Crime Commissioner for” with the addition of the name of the police area.
 - 4.2 Section 2 of the 2011 Act provides for every police force in England and Wales outside London to have a chief constable. Under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the 2011 Act, the official name of a chief constable is “the Chief Constable of” with the addition of the name of the police force.
 - 4.3 Schedule 1 to the Police Act 1996 lists the police areas in England and Wales outside London. Four of these are in Wales: Dyfed Powys, Gwent, North Wales and South Wales.
5. **Territorial Extent and Application**
 - 5.1 This instrument extends to England and Wales.
6. **European Convention on Human Rights**
 - 6.1 As this statutory instrument is not subject to the affirmative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.
7. **Policy background**

- 7.1 In June 2010, the Government announced its intention to replace police authorities with directly elected PCCs in England and Wales by 2012. This aim is implemented by the 2011 Act.
- 7.2 Under the Act, each PCC is a corporation sole with a prescribed name in which the PCC may acquire property, rights and liabilities and sue or be sued. The Act also establishes chief constables as corporations sole, again with a prescribed name in each case.
- 7.3 This Order prescribes Welsh forms of the official names of PCCs and chief constables in Wales.

8. Consultation outcome

- 8.1 We have consulted with Welsh speakers.

9. Guidance

- 9.1 None.

10. Impact

- 10.1 This Order does not apply to businesses, charities or voluntary bodies.
- 10.2 This Order puts no requirements on the public sector.

11. Regulating small business

- 11.1 The Order does not apply to small business.

12. Monitoring & review

- 12.1 None.

13. Contact

- 13.1 Alex Doyle or Neil King at the Home Office (tel: 020 7035 4858 or email: PCCelections@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk) can answer any queries regarding this instrument.