



Heddlu Police

DYFED-POWYS

FOI Reference: 567/2018

Request:

1. Copies of any policies and/or procedures the police force follow when undertaking Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Investigations or investigations of an equivalent nature.
2. In lieu of any policies and/or procedures, can the police force please provide an overview of the steps the ordinarily follow when undertaking such investigations, including steps to obtain relevant evidence
3. Can Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Investigations be conducted in stances in which the vulnerable adult(s) concerned is deceased?
4. Is it normal practice for the police force to interview individuals accused and/or suspected of causing harm and/or abusing a vulnerable adult(s)? Are there any circumstances in which the police force will not interview the accused?
5. Is it normal practice for the police force to interview vulnerable adult(s) concerned in part of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Investigation? Are there any circumstances on which the police force will not interview the vulnerable adult(s)
6. Are there any legal requirements to notify a vulnerable adult(s) they are subject to a Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Investigation?
7. In circumstances in which vulnerable adult(s) is deceased or mentally incapacitated, are there any legal requirements to notice their relatives, executors and/or administrators that they are subject to a Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Investigation?
8. Are there any legal requirements to notify the accused they are subject to a Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Investigation?

Response 1:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. Dyfed-Powys Police do not have a specific Policy in relation to Safeguarding Vulnerable Adult Investigations.

Response 2:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. Dyfed-Powys Police adhere to the following documents when completing Vulnerable Adult Abuse Investigations:

- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 – Working Together to Safeguard People.
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- ACPO 2012 Guidance on Safeguarding and Investigating the Abuse of Vulnerable Adults
- Core Investigative Doctrine NPIA

Any steps Police follow when completing an investigation will be determined by crime type, complexity, seriousness and circumstances of the offence. The above list is not exhaustive.

The Relevant links to the above documentation are detailed below:

<https://gov.wales/topics/health/socialcare/act/?lang=en>
<https://socialcare.wales/hub/sswbact>
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/9/contents
<https://www.app.college.police.uk/.../vulnerable-adults>

Response 3:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. Safeguarding Vulnerable Adult Investigations can be conducted in instances which the vulnerable adult(s) concerned is deceased. Please see the above links

Response 4:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. In most circumstances, a person accused of a criminal offence will be interviewed by police. Circumstances whereby this would not be the case include; if person is unfit for interview, person cannot be traced, person cannot be identified, if person is deceased or deemed too ill, if person is below the age of criminal responsibility and in *some* cases if the victim has capacity but does not support police action. This list is not exhaustive.

Response 5:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. It is normal practice however the nature of the interview and the decision to interview will be on case by case basis and takes into consideration the welfare of the individual. Please see Ministry of Justice (2011) Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses and Guidance on Using Special Measures.

Response 6:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. There is no specific legislation however Dyfed-Powys Police adhere to the Victim's Charter 2006 and Victims Code of practice 2015.

Response 7:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. There is no specific legislation.

Response 8:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested. There is no specific legislation.

Disclosed under FOI on 21.08.18