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DYFED-POWYS
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER

SUMMARY DECISION SHEET

Purpose: Commissioner Decision – Ref. DLI196

Timing: ASAP

Title: Zoom Platform for Public Engagement Meetings

Category of Decision / Business Area Impact: Engagement

Executive Summary:

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, all face to face public engagement meetings have been suspended, with all meetings now being scheduled virtually. The current virtual platform in place within DPP is Skype for Business, with plans in place to introduce the Microsoft Teams platform as the Force begins the process of installing Microsoft 365 on all staff laptops & computers.

However, both the above platforms have their limitations in terms of ease of access to members of the public. In particular, both platforms do not offer simultaneous translation facilities, which is essential for the OPCC, as a large percentage of the population in Dyfed-Powys are Welsh speaking. Also as a public body in Wales, we are required to give equal prominence to the Welsh and English languages, as well as promoting and enabling the use of the Welsh language, in line with the requirements of Welsh Government's Welsh Language Standards.

The Zoom virtual platform offers simultaneous translation facilities, and has developed to be one of the most popular platforms used by the public since the beginning of the Pandemic. Although Zoom has been restricted by the Force due to security concerns, the OPCC has had permission from the Senior ICT Operational Manager to use the Platform for our public engagement meetings, as long as the platform is not being used for meetings that will or might include, sensitive or confidential data.

The Force will not allow staff to download the Zoom app to DPP owned IT equipment. The force will only allow access to the platform via web browsers.

Recommendation:

Approve the decision to use Zoom for public engagement meetings.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with the Nolan Principles for Conduct in Public Life.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:

Date: 22.01.21