

All-Wales Policing Academic Collaboration

April 2024

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Overview

- Collaborative agreement established in March 2022, with a view to establishing broader evidence base for policing in Wales.
- An opportunity to build on the local arrangements which exist more formally, bringing together the four Welsh police forces, the four Office for Police and Crime Commissioners and the nine universities in Wales through the Wales Innovation Network (WIN).
- WIN facilitates collaboration across universities in Wales, and with private, public and third-sector bodies to strength research and knowledge exchange throughout Wales.
- £40,000 a year has been committed by the four Welsh police forces and the four Office for Police and Crime Commissioners for two years.

Aims of AWPAC

- To facilitate effective engagement between the Welsh police forces and universities in Wales to undertake research that improves the lives of people in Wales.
 - Forging equitable partnerships for collaborative working at an ‘All-Wales’ level between the police and academic sectors.
 - Enabling ‘All-Wales’ partnerships to create larger, collaborative bids, to capture external grant funding at an ‘All-Wales’ level.
 - Working in partnership to create research impact, benefit police policy and to share best practice across Wales.
 - Raising awareness of the collaborative policing research being carried across Wales.

Year 1 project initial outcomes

- **All-Wales Data Sharing Project**

Aberystwyth University, Bangor University, Swansea University, Cardiff University, Dyfed-Powys Police, North Wales Police, Gwent Police and ADR Wales

- **Effects of national media coverage**

Bangor University, Aberystwyth University, University of East London, Westminster University, North Wales Police, Wrexham University, Swansea University, University of West London, Gwent Police and South Wales Police

- **Enablers and blockers to student volunteering in policing**

University of South Wales, Cardiff Metropolitan University, University of Wales Trinity Saint David and South Wales Police

Year 1 project initial outcomes

- **“Police understanding and application of the concept of vulnerability in responding to the needs of sex workers in Wales”**

Swansea University, University of South Wales (including collaboration with police employees in the four Welsh forces, as well as representatives from the Metropolitan Police and third-sector partner organisations)

- **Addressing domestic abuse within the police**

The Open University and University of South Wales (with a networking event including representatives from four Welsh police forces).

Year 2 projects

- **Misogyny as a risk factor leading to serious harm in cases of domestic abuse – led by Bangor University**
- **Operation Diogel and Specialist Units for tackling VAWG across Wales – led by Cardiff University**
- **Addressing Police Perpetrated VAWDASV: A process evaluation – led by University of South Wales**

Upcoming activity

- AWPAC will continue to strengthen the policing research community in Wales. The steering group is exploring mechanisms by which the partnerships can be further enhanced, allowing police forces in Wales to draw on academic expertise with the nation.
- The collaboration is planning a research symposium in Spring 2024 to draw together key stakeholders from across academia and policing to provide lessons learnt and recommendations from the projects funded by AWPAC.