

OPCC Record of Decision

Project Name or Title
Suspension of Physical Visiting by the Independent Custody Visiting Scheme

Decision Record prepared by	
Name:	<u>Janet Hyndman</u>
Role:	Business Resource Officer
Date of Decision:	04/01/2021

1. Background

Physical custody visits have been kept under review in 2020 to ensure they can be conducted safely. Previous decisions regarding this can be found [here](#).

2. Decision Record

2.1 On 4th January 2021, the decision was made to suspend physical custody visits. The reasons were:

- To allow for the potential higher circulation of the virus, following the Christmas and New Year period, so minimising the risk through reduced physical visits
- A new risk assessment by Health and Safety is required which considers the newest strain of the virus before visits can recommence.

This decision will be reviewed on the 18th January 2021. This review will consider: a revised risk assessment drawn up in conjunction with force health and safety, the guidelines that ICVs follow, the protocols put in place that govern visiting arrangements, together with information about the treatment of detainees gained from virtual visits, custody record reviews and other liaison with HQ custody.

3. Consultation, Engagement and Communication

3.1 Consultation took place between the OPCC and the ICV Scheme

4. OPCC Monitoring Officer advice

4.1 Legal, Management and Equality Implications – Current and Future
The PCC's Monitoring Officer has advised that the arrangements set out in the ICV Scheme meet the duty of care to the volunteers on the basis of the risk assessment undertaken and current government advice. There are no current



and going concerns identified by this scheme about the way in which custody is provided across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly and the ICV scheme can be reintroduced when it is safe to do so.

- 4.2 Financial and Commercial – Current and Future
The PCC’s Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer has advised that there are no financial considerations associated with this decision.

5. Supporting documents:

There are no supporting documents that relate to this decision

6. Official approval

- 6.1 Following the appropriate approval, this decision sheet will be published, subject to FOIA classification, on the OPCC website.



For OPCC office use:

If FOI Closed at the current date under Section 22, please provide details of the future date by which this decision can be reconsidered for publication:	N/A
Is there a publication schedule that lists the documents relating to this decision that will also be published at a later date in the future? If yes, please attach a copy with this decision.	NO

The Recommendation for Decision as outlined in this report is formally approved and subject to Freedom of Information Classification will be published on the OPCC website:

Police and Crime Commissioner

**Governance Signature by
Monitoring Officer**

SIGNED
PRINT: ALISON HERNANDEZ
DATE: 7th Jan 2021

SIGNED
PRINT: RICHARD MARTIN
DATE: 7th Jan 2021

Decision logged in register? *[Tick if completed]*

✓

Decision published on OPCC website? *[Tick if completed]*

✓