

OPCC Record of Decision

<u>Summary</u>
Decision to return to physical visits to custody by Independent Custody visitors

Decision record prepared by	
Name:	<u>Janet Hyndman</u>
Role:	Business Resource Officer
Date of Decision:	07/12/2020

1. Background

Physical custody visits were suspended in March 2020, following government guidance. In May 2020 this decision was reviewed, when it was decided to review the decision should the Covid-19 Alert Level change from four to three. The reduction in the Alert Level from four to three occurred in June 2020, and in July 2020 it was decided to return to physical visits, following the introduction of new guidelines and updated risk assessment. Physical visits took place in August and September. Custody visitors following these guidelines reported no concerns for their safety or for the safety of detainees or custody staff. In September 2020 the Alert level rose from three to four, and visits were suspended, with an aim to review in December 2020. On 2 December 2020 the UK government introduced a tiering system regarding Covid-19. On 7 December the PCC and OPCC Senior Leadership Team considered the updated guidelines that take account government tiering and the updated risk assessment.

2. Decision record

- 2.1 To return to physical visits to custody by Independent Custody visitors with an updated risk assessment. with immediate effect.

3. Consultation, Engagement and Communication

- 3.1 Internal consultation has occurred within the OPCC.

4. OPCC Monitoring Officer advice

- 4.1 Legal, Management and Equality Implications – Current and Future
The PCC's Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer has advised that the arrangements set out meet the duty of care to the volunteers on the basis of the risk assessment undertaken and current government advice. **The decision will be reviewed again if Devon, Cornwall or the Isles of Scilly enter Tier level 3, as determined by UK government.**



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

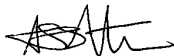
6.1 Following the appropriate approval, this decision sheet will be published, subject to FOIA classification, on the OPCC website.

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



Signed
Print: Alison Hernandez
Date: 7 December 2020

**Governance Signature by
Monitoring Officer**



Signed
Print: Frances Hughes
Date: 7 December 2020

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

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