
CHESHIRE CONSTABULARY

Regulation 28 Response

Cheshire Constabulary acknowledges the points raised by His Majesty's Coroner following the inquests into the deaths of David Faulkner and Brandon Pryde.

The North West Motorway Patrol Group (hitherto known as NWMPG) is a police collaboration of three North-West forces including Greater Manchester Police (hitherto known as GMP). The collaboration is led by Cheshire Constabulary under which, a regional control centre coordinates and directs the policing response to all incidents occurring on the strategic roads network within the area of the collaboration only. The NWMPG is a communications, command and control collaboration.

Cheshire Constabulary and the NWMPG adhere to the Authorised Professional Practice published by The College of Policing for the management of all police pursuits. In line with this guidance, pursuits are authorised and commanded by the most appropriate authority, an appropriately trained operator within the control room.

If a pursuit moves from one command area to another, or the pursuit commences on a different command area to which the communication platform is aligned then communications links will be established between the respective control rooms, but the command and control will remain with the originating authority until such a point in time as is deemed appropriate by the respective control room supervisors to hand over command and control.

It is the agreed position of NWMPG and the three forces involved within the collaboration that when a pursuit enters the strategic road network then the transfer of command will commence when communicated between the originating force and the NWMPG.

In response to the areas of concern raised in the Regulation 28 notice, namely:

- (1) The GMP Force Duty Supervisor assumed that the NWMPG Supervisor had taken Command and Control when they had not done so;
- (2) The NWMPG Supervisor did not communicate whether they had taken Command and Control clearly;
- (3) The GMP Force Duty Supervisor did not consider that they had any authority to perform Command and Control of the pursuit once it had entered the motorway network; and
- (4) The Protocol did not operate in practice so that there was no effective Command and Control at any point during the pursuit.

Cheshire Constabulary acting as lead force on behalf of the collaborative forces is committed to ensuring continuous professional development and training for all staff within the regional control centre.

The NWMPG governance board chaired by Assistant Chief Constable [REDACTED] (Chief Officer lead) convened on 28 September 2022 and each lead officer for the tri-force collaboration committed to delivering a training package in relation with command protocols for cross border pursuits. This training will ensure awareness of the requisite protocols. The progress of the roll out of training will be tracked at the bi-monthly governance meetings moving forward.

Cheshire Constabulary are aware of the enhanced training package by GMP pursuit management working group. As part of the strategic oversight the governance board of the NWMPG will monitor and share feedback from GMP training package and disseminate best practice throughout the collaboration.

Cheshire Police (on behalf of the NWMPG) and GMP have revised the managing pursuits protocol and produced a clearer document which removes the previous ambiguity on the issue of Command and Control. This document will be circulated to all NWMPG control room staff involved in the management of police pursuits.

It is expected that measures will promote a standard operating procedure to address fully the four areas of concern highlighted by His Majesty's Assistant Coroner Adrian Farrow.

Dated: 29 September 2022

Signed:

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Superintendent (Roads and Crime Response Unit)

Cheshire Constabulary

For and on behalf of: North West Motorway Patrol Group