**Tier 3 and Wales Firebreak 22.10.20**

As you are aware, Wales is entering a circuit break period from Friday 23rd of October until  the start of Monday 9th of  November. It will see greater restrictions aiming at slowing the spread of Covid-19.  Governors will be required to consider their regime delivery and expected changes to the regime in Welsh prisons are being coordinated via the PGD’s office in Wales. However, all sites are advised  of the implications around social visits:

* In Wales in the adult estate, social visits will cease as of 18:00 on Friday and Purple Visits will be used instead, wherever possible. Social visits will recommence at the end of the Circuit Break (CB) under the current Stage 3 EDM subject to risk.  Exempt from this are exceptional compassionate cases and social visits to young adults at HMP Parc.
* Due to the imposed restrictions, social visitors from Wales should not be allowed to visit any establishment in England for the duration of the Circuit Break. From 9th of November, this will be subject to review and likely restoration.

Additionally, Greater Manchester will be placed in the Tier 3 of restrictions from 00.01 on Friday and South Yorkshire will be placed in the same Tier from 00.01 on Saturday. Measures and procedures outlined in the briefing published on 13/10 on the Tier 3 restrictions will now apply to this area. This means:

* All establishments should not accept social visitors coming from Greater Manchester, South Yorkshire or any other Tier 3 area. A postcode checker can be accessed via <https://www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-local-restrictions>
* All establishments located in Greater Manchester/South Yorkshire must review their regime and consider the risk of infection, adjusting regimes accordingly as per previously issued guidance on reimposing restrictions. These establishments are expected to suspend their social visits and make local adjustments but any change to the regime that leads to the decision move a full regime stage (i.e back to Stage 4) must be ratified via Gold.
* In consideration of the risk presented it has been decided to suspend visits at HMP Styal and HMP Risley also for the same period as the Greater Manchester tier 3 restrictions.