

Stop the Drift 2: A Continuing Focus on 21st Century Criminal Justice

PCC Response

I am aware that a great deal of work has been carried out, both locally and nationally, to improve processes and reduce bureaucracy in the criminal justice system – particularly around more effective use of technology. However, more can be done and it is right that HMIC have continued to focus on this area.

From a policing perspective, particularly at a time of reducing officer and staff numbers and resource, I am very much focused on trying to ensure that bureaucracy is reduced to the minimum and that officer and staff time is freed up to enable them to deliver the public facing service that both they and local communities wish to see. The HMIC inspection highlights a number of areas where delays still occur in relation to custody and processing criminal justice cases which I am determined to work with all relevant partners locally to help to address.

As a result, the Dorset Criminal Justice Board (DCJB) will take the lead in reviewing the report and recommendations from a Dorset perspective and developing any actions that may be required as a result. The DCJB includes representation from all key criminal justice partners locally and is the natural forum to lead on this work in Dorset.

Martyn Underhill
Police & Crime Commissioner for Dorset