

Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
Home Secretary
2 Marsham Street
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12 May 2021

Dear Home Secretary

Response to HMICFRS - policing inspection programme and framework 2021/22: for consultation

In line with my statutory responsibilities as Police and Crime Commissioner and following consultation with the Chief Constable, I am pleased to provide the following response to the HMICFRS and the Secretary of State for the Home Office in respect of the above report – “HMICFRS - policing inspection programme and framework 2021/22”, which was published on 19 April 2021.

With regard to question 1 – Proposed thematic inspections - we note that HMICFRS has identified the following areas for their thematic inspections:

- rape;
- domestic abuse;
- digital forensics;
- advancing equality, diversity and inclusion in policing;
- ethnic disproportionality in the criminal justice system; and
- serious youth violence.

Comments from Dorset Police

In response to question 1, the Chief Constable believes:

- It would be helpful to consider the wider context for rape investigations and outcomes, and the relationship with the CPS.
- Similarly, in terms of disproportionality and criminal justice, this should also include a wide focus across criminal justice partners.
- With regard to serious youth violence, the involvement of knife crime and weapons is an area of concern and consideration for future inspections.

In response to question 2: “Are there any significant new or emerging problems in policing that HMICFRS should take into account in its inspection activity?”, the Chief Constable

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wishes to include the following:

- The inspection structure for Alliance and Regional Departments can be challenging and considerations on how these can be improved.
- The increases in demand on POLIT and MAPPA are a challenge for Forces along with recognition that changes in partnership resources are adding to Police demand, and therefore this would be helpful to explore in future inspections.

As PCC, I would also like to suggest that Estates could perhaps be included in the future. The pandemic has demonstrated at pace that there are extra opportunities for efficiency to be found through new ways of working.

We have no comments to make in response to question 3.

This response will be published on the OPCC website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martyn Underhill', written in a cursive style.

Martyn Underhill
Police and Crime Commissioner