

Home Secretary  
c/o Gareth Redmond  
Head of Police Transparency Unit  
Home Office, Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

30<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Dear Home Secretary,

**North Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCCs) response to the HMIC North Yorkshire Police report on "Crime Data Integrity" dated 28 August 2014.**

As Chair of the Transparency Standing Group on behalf of PCCs, I take any matters of openness and honesty very seriously indeed. This HMIC report was very helpful in that regard, and I welcome the thirteen recommendations specific to North Yorkshire Police.

The report said there was work to do to improve the processes around which North Yorkshire Police records crime, and I know that the Chief Constable has already begun to make changes. I will be monitoring progress closely.

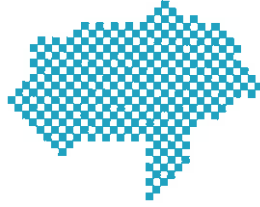
Whilst there is undoubtedly scope to improve our crime recording processes, it was reassuring to see that HMIC has specifically said that North Yorkshire Police has a clear understanding of the expected standards of behaviour and conduct to achieve crime recording integrity, so the public can trust the figures produced by the force. Being a member of the Integrity Working Group on behalf of PCCs I know all too well how important confidence and trust is in delivering a good quality policing service. I want to build on that confidence in North Yorkshire.

Notwithstanding the work ongoing in North Yorkshire Police to improve our data integrity, this is fundamentally an issue about people and about victims. I want to see a more victim-centred police service, and there is still much we can do to make sure that people who report a crime get access to the help and support they need, as well as justice for any crime that has been committed.

Being at the receiving end of any crime is difficult, but when it is a sexual assault, violent attack or robbery, the effects can be devastating. I want to ensure that anyone who has suffered as a result of a criminal offence has access to the right support, so that they are able to cope, recover and get their lives back to normal.

With that in mind, I have already supported specialist facilities to help the most vulnerable victims of crime – those who have mental health problems, and those who have suffered domestic abuse or sexual assault. But it is not just about helping those in the "high-risk" category. I have already commissioned





more services to support more victims, with the aim of preventing escalation and improving the service for wider numbers of people.

Taking proper care around how we record crimes is extremely important, and we must get that right. But policing is about more than the numbers. It is how we deal with people that matters, and this is where I am looking to make a difference.

Yours sincerely

Julia Mulligan  
North Yorkshire's Police & Crime Commissioner

