Cumbria Office of Police Fire and Crime Commissioner

**Cumbria Police Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) response to inspections of Cumbria Constabulary published by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)**

*Section 33 of the Police Act 1996 (as amended by section 37 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017) requires local policing bodies to respond to recommendations in inspectors reports within 56 days.*

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| **Inspection Title:** | #28004 State of Policing: The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2022 |
| **Date Published:** | 09/06/2023 |
| **Type of Inspection:** | National Inspection |
| **Key Findings** | |
| This is His Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary’s first annual report to the Secretary of State under section 54(4A) of the Police Act 1996. It contains his assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of police forces in England and Wales, based on the inspections we carried out between 1 December 2021 and 31 March 2023.  This report draws on findings from inspections of police forces in England and Wales, to provide an overall view of the state of policing. | |
| **Recommendations:** | |
| **Recommendation 1:** By 30 September 2023, the National Police Chiefs’ Council lead on stop and search, working with the College of Policing and academia, should commission further primary research to quantify the deterrent value of stop and search and the causes of disproportionality in its use.  **Recommendation 2:** By 31 December 2023, the Home Secretary should review the present limitations in the legislation concerning the Inspectors of Constabulary and establish whether measures to resolve them should be introduced to Parliament.  **Recommendation 3:** By 31 December 2023, the Home Secretary should re-establish the involvement of the Inspectors of Constabulary in the selection and appointment of police chief officers and determine whether legislative changes should be introduced to Parliament. | |
| **PFCC & Chief Fire Officer Response to Report and Recommendation:** | |
| Cumbria’s Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner has welcomed the inspection by His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) regarding The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2022.  “I recognise that HMI Cooke’s Annual Assessment of Policing has highlighted many of the key challenges being faced by Police forces across England and Wales today. I support the need for the Police to tackle issues that matter most to the public. As part of my Police and Crime Plan, I make a commitment to being a voice of the public in policing matters. It’s pivotal to Policing that regular opportunities are provided for the public in order to log concerns, feedback and to demonstrate we are passionate about their safety. If there are any concerns with community it is my duty to then raise these with the Government, national bodies, the Police, and local partner agencies.”  “Tackling Road safety, antisocial behaviour, violence (particularly violence against women) and drug abuse are priorities in my Police and Crime Plan because when consulted, the public expressed to me that these issues mattered the most to them.”  “HMI Cooke also highlights the importance of getting the basics right in investigation and responding to the public, and that police forces need to concentrate on effective neighbourhood policing. These are all points which I know are important in Cumbria Constabulary and I expect they will continue to be under the new Chief Constable, who I recently recruited.”  “While the recommendations in the report do not specifically require direct action by Chief Constables or Police and Crime Commissioners, I do take note of the surrounding points within this report. As the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner of Cumbria, it is my role to ensure the public are heard, feel safe and have trust in their force. I will continue to drive conversations with the community and target key areas of crime.” | |