Cumbria Office of Police and Crime Commissioner

**Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) 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:**  | Impact of the Pandemic on the Criminal Justice System  |
| **Date Published:** | January 2021  |
| **Type of Inspection:** | A joint view of the Criminal Justice Chief Inspectors on the Criminal Justice System’s response to Covid-19 |
| **Key Findings**  |
| This report provides a cross-system view of how the Criminal Justice System (CJS) reacted in the immediate aftermath of the first national lockdown (23 March to 10 May 2020), and of how the system has managed since. All four criminal justice inspectorates carried out inspections of their respective agencies’ responses to Covid-19. This report sets out findings from these inspections, as well as cross-cutting themes, and highlights the successes, challenges and problems that the CJS has faced and is still facing whilst recovering from the pandemic. |
| **Recommendations:**  |
| There are no recommendations made in this report. |
| **PCC & Chief Constable Response to Report and Recommendation:** |
| The Police & Crime Commissioner for Cumbria said, “I welcome Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) report ‘A Joint View of the Criminal Justice Chief Inspectors on the Criminal Justice System’s Response to Covid-19’. As chair of Safer Cumbria, a partnership of key agencies and responsible authorities from across Cumbria who work collaboratively to address all aspects of community safety and criminal justice, I have monitored, and feel assured, that this Partnership is working together to address Covid-19 related issues across the criminal justice system. The Partnership has discussed developments in relation to probation, prison, the courts and other agencies, and the impact of these changes on victims and witnesses of crime. It is through this network that I will continue to monitor the challenges and problems that have arisen from Covid-19 and the impact they continue to have on the community and services, for example the impact of early prison releases and the backlog in court cases. “As with all HMICFRS Inspection reports, I will continue to monitor and scrutinise the Constabulary’s response to this report through my Accountability Framework, including my one-to-one meetings with the Chief Constable.” |