

**KATE GREEN**  
**DEPUTY MAYOR**  
**OF GREATER**  
**MANCHESTER**

Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP  
Secretary of State for the Home Department  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Home Secretary,

**SUBJECT: Joint case building by the police and Crown Prosecution Service**

I write in response to the recent publication of the 'Joint case building by the police and Crown Prosecution Service' report by His Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPSI) and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS). I welcome the findings from the report and its focus on improving the culture, communication and partnership working across the Crown Prosecution Service and Police Forces across the country. The development of strong prosecution case files is essential to delivering justice for victims and witnesses and provides the public with confidence in the criminal justice system that it will support them to receive the justice they seek.

I note that Greater Manchester Police was inspected during phase two of this inspection and after discussing the report with the Chief Constable I am pleased to provide the following response to the three relevant recommendations.

**Recommendation 5:**

**By July 2026, police forces should have in place effective governance and decision-making capability, agreed contact arrangements with CPS, trained and competent decision-makers and efficient systems to manage case files.**

On 4<sup>th</sup> August 2025, GMP commenced a phased rollout of its evidence review operating model. During the next 12-months, that model will be rolled out across GMP.

Evidence Review Officers (ERO) have and are being recruited, being given enhanced training on the role of a Police Decision Maker (PDM) and disclosure, they have/ will continue to receive significant training inputs from the CPS North-West.

All GMP supervisors are mandatorily required to partake in the above mentioned PDM course, 714 sergeants are trained to date, including in Director's Guidance on Charging (DG6) quality assurance. The rollout to cover all supervisors is ongoing and being driven by the Criminal Justice and Custody Branch.

GMCA, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester, M1 6EU

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EROs in GMP will play a critical role in supporting internal Criminal Justice governance, prosecution file build and decision-making. They will function as quality assurance gatekeepers, reviewing case files to ensure they meet evidential standards before submission to CPS. The process is to be a proactive review process designed to reduce waste, CJ delays and ensure that investigations are completed to national file standards. EROs will facilitate communication with the CPS by identifying and resolving, at an early-stage evidential gaps, thereby, improving transparency and reducing misunderstandings. Their oversight of case file queues will allow for prioritisation of time-sensitive cases, contributing to more efficient and effective case progression through the CJS, leading to better, just outcomes for victims, witnesses and Greater Manchester communities.

In addition, an innovative CPS and GMP joint Teams channel for pre-charge (green) files went live in GMP on 17<sup>th</sup> 2025 June, with a focus on live time file repair, more expedient file progress between agencies and leading to numerous improvements via reduced delays in the CJS.

There is a focus on 'Call not CAP' - pick up the telephone and talk to one another, rather than create bureaucratic Case Action Plans - between GMP and the CPS North-West via a re-invigoration of the real time case conference process for domestic abuse (DA) files.

A new, joint CPS and GMP process has also been established regarding the submission of cases that have a statutory time limit (STL). That is to ensure STL files are prioritised for completion on time, to reduce the risk of such cases exceeded the STL.

#### **Recommendation 7:**

**Within 12 months of the completion of Recommendation 6 (*By July 2026, the College of Policing should develop a national supervisors' training course and assessment on case file building*), police forces should ensure that every supervisor responsible for assessing case files is trained in case file building and DG6 quality assurance.**

GMP already has an established training and continual professional development (CPD) infrastructure in this regard. The GMP training and CPD programme includes:

- 18 CJ Webinars delivered between June and July 2025 – short, interactive Force training sessions with a focus on Initial Management Document (IMD) completion; Voluntary Attendance (VA) interview process; file redaction; disclosure; third party material notices; police bail; and completion of MG6 series forms.
- 10 accredited CPD file training sessions delivered to officers between September 2024 and January 2025, focussing on disclosure and file management issues that result in CJ cases becoming the subject of the CPS staged escalation process. 880 officers attended the sessions.
- The GMP CJ Branch is providing a one-day training course on disclosure, scheduled to take place every month until the end of calendar year 2025.

GMP also recognises the importance of DG6 training for supervisors and is committed to ensuring compliance. EROs will be well placed to support the initiative by providing mentoring and guidance to Force-wide supervisors regarding evidential standards and quality assurance. ERO experience of reviewing case files and liaising with the CPS will well equip them to deliver shared learning, practical insight, common errors and best practice.

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EROs will assist with the development and GMP delivery of DG6-focused training modules, reinforcing quality assurance principles across supervisory levels.

**Recommendation 9:**

**By July 2026, the police and Crown Prosecution Service at Joint Operational Improvement Meetings should develop a joint local training plan to increase awareness and understanding of each other's roles, including the operation of IT systems.**

While a formal joint training plan is not yet in place, GMP and CPS have already undertaken several joint training initiatives, including:

- A joint session in March 2025 on domestic abuse and evidence-led prosecutions.
- A RASSO away day focused on early advice and partnership working.
- Planned RASSO CPD sessions in November 2025.

GMP intends to involve EROs in the development and delivery of future joint training. Additionally, GMP is implementing a new Records Management System (RMS) to replace PoliceWorks, with the CJ and Custody Branch actively involved in its design to ensure operational effectiveness.

A joint training plan will be discussed at the Strategic Joint Operational Improvement Meeting (JOIM) before the end of 2025.

In my 2024-2029 Police and Crime plan, the number one commitment is to work to improve the public's trust and confidence in policing. Ensuring effective and efficient processes are in place to ensure swift and robust justice is delivered to those who chose to commit crimes is a critical factor in improving that trust and I will ensure that the actions outlined above are fully implemented at a minimum, and taken further where appropriate to deliver the best possible outcomes for victims of crime in Greater Manchester.

Yours Sincerely.



Kate Green  
**Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester**

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