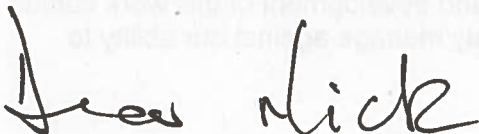


Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP,
Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

1st June 2018



SUBJECT: HMICFRS Crime Data Integrity Report – April 2018

I write in response to your letter dated 2nd May and the Crime Data Integrity inspection report published in April 2018.

The Crime Data Integrity inspection undertaken in 2016 highlighted some concerns around the recording of violent crime, cancellation processes and the timeliness of the recording of reported crime. Greater Manchester Police (GMP) has invested a significant amount of resource and time to improve crime recording performance in these areas, and others, which was acknowledged within the findings of the re-inspection.

It is important to note that the journey to achieving these improvements has been a challenging one. The atrocious attack in Manchester in May 2017 saw over 850 crimes recorded and placed an unprecedented demand on emergency services to assist and support the victims on the night and in the weeks and months that followed.

In addition, Greater Manchester Police has had to operate in a period of reduced budgets and resources - some 2,000 less officers and 1,000 less police staff and Police Community Support Officers since 2010 - and yet now records 100,000 more crimes than in 2016. As expected this places an extraordinary amount of pressure and demand on front line policing in addition to the back office support processes.

However, I continue to work closely with the Deputy Chief Constable to review how additional improvements can be driven across the force through new technology, operating models and a commitment to invest in training for officers and staff.

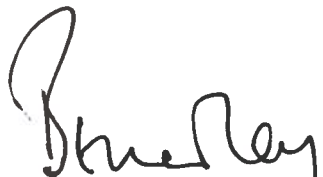
We have recently agreed that refresher training will be provided to staff to address the recording issues highlighted within the inspection report including domestic abuse, rape and modern slavery. In addition, work is already underway to review the recording process for rape with a view look at crime recording at the first point of contact.

The report provides reference to the need for the accurate recording of victim equality data and acknowledges that this has been considered in line with the introduction of a new IT system in GMP. Ahead of this implementation consideration is being given to how this information can be gathered more accurately and consistently from victims to help further inform the understanding of crime demand.

All of this work and wider crime recording performance will continue to be monitored through the Crime Standards Board and through command team structures.

Both the Deputy Chief Constable and I agree that it is important to record crime effectively to ensure an appropriate police response and to improve public confidence in the service. However, we must keep in mind that the management and development of this work comes at a significant financial cost, which we must continuously manage against our ability to provide meaningful outcomes to the victim of crime.

Yours sincerely



Baroness Beverley Hughes
Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester
Policing, Crime and Criminal Justice