



## **RESPONSE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER OF WILTSHIRE AND SWINDON TO THE HMICFRS REPORT**

### **A joint thematic inspection of the police and Crown Prosecution Service's response to rape - Phase two: Post-charge**

#### **Police and Crime Commissioner's comments**

It is nationally recognised rape conviction rates are below acceptable standards, and so I welcome any input that may serve to improve conviction rates alongside ensure the residents of Wiltshire receive an effective service.

I am delighted to see Tri Force action plans include a correspondence process for the three stages of the judicial process. That force VCOP compliance includes agreed communication time scales alongside a task force to complete performance scrutiny.

My police and crime plan 2022 - 2025 prioritised improving the experience of victims and delivering justice. Maintaining these policing protocols will drive high performance and I will continue scrutinise force strategic planning to ensure these procedures are lasting.

I am also pleased they previously recommended SSAIDP training is occurring and new initiatives such as the 'Your Journey Booklet' and investigatory redirection to include the actions of the suspect are in place. This followed by a commitment to ensure the CPS consistently consider 'bad character highlights positive improvements and will be challenged where not maintained.

I am committed to funding victims' support services and engage with initiatives that will help the vulnerable for good reason. Partnership such as these aim to ensure Wiltshire's residents have the correct support and services to safeguard as effectively as possible.