



11/07/22

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

National Child Protection Inspection: Wiltshire Police

Police and Crime Commissioner's comments

I welcome the NCPI findings and share their view it is vital Wiltshire Police commit to a program of improvements which ensure children in Wiltshire are safeguarded. The recommendations included in this report reinforce my own and provide the force with an opportunity to reach for excellence.

I find it disappointing the force have not sought to improve the services they offer to ensure the causes of abuse are combatted. Going forward it is my expectation operational staff will continue to receive the comprehensive training which equips them with the skills to consistently identify children at risk of abuse. Alongside, the specialist training expert teams such CIAT and MASH staff required to support their work.

The missing persons assessment into the service Wiltshire Police provide has been reviewed by the OPCC and the forces progress against its recommendations will be scrutinised. This is alongside investing in community safety partnership programmes, such as therapeutic services, mentoring schemes and implementing trauma informed practises which seek to support and prevent children being placed at risk.

During my time in office, I have embedded a culture of governance and performance oversight to ensure we constantly deliver against the community expectations. The forces implementation of qualitative analysis through performance data was overdue but shows real progress. These measures will allow Wiltshire Police staff to effectively risk assess and audit their work on an ongoing basis.

I also anticipate the implementation of supervisory and partnership oversight will not only improve standards and bring about consistency but lead to more informed collaborations and greater impacts. It is encouraging to see force policy recognises it must work alongside its partner agencies when safeguarding and protecting children. The RHI should inform trigger plans and aid the Philomena protocols.