

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

### State of Policing: The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2022

#### Police and Crime Commissioner's comments

The annual statement offers insight into the order of policing nationally, both acknowledging the challenges faced and offering solutions. As PCC, I have a duty to ensure Wiltshire Police uses the finite policing resources in the most effective and efficient manner when tackling crime in our communities.

Since taking office, I have visited and listened to the concerns communities where the crime, and related anti-social behaviour, blights daily lives. Wiltshire now has its highest number of police officers since 2010 and we are starting to see those vital community-based police officers being achieved through key investment from the police precept and the Uplift programme.

An increased police presence, coordinating hundreds of targeted patrols, bail order checks, closure order checks, alongside dedicated intelligence-led operations executing warrants and arrests to robustly tackle serious violence and knife crime in pockets of Wiltshire and Swindon is achieving some excellent results. Underpinning the Chief Constable's priority of creating safe public spaces and my priority of reducing violence and serious harm

In an agricultural county like Wiltshire, it is equally as important to keep on top of how Wiltshire Police are responding to and dealing with all forms of crime in rural area. A lot of work has gone into improving this as a police force and I included it in the priorities set out in my Police and Crime Plan.

Steps to bring forward plans to provide a policing hub for the south, which would include a police station for Salisbury, among other functions, are moving in the right direction with Wiltshire's Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner leading the project.

Both the Chief Constable and I remain committed to delivering a quality policing service, which meets the needs of its communities, tackles the crimes which matter and can deliver justice and provide support for people when they are at their most vulnerable.