

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

National Child Protection Inspection Post-Inspection Review April 2023

Police and Crime Commissioner's comments

I welcome the National Child Protection Post Inspection Review. The follow up assessment saw HMICFRS inspectors comprehensively assess Wiltshire Police's ability to address recommendations made in the March 2022 NCPI inspection. Following audits, interviews and the examination of force policies and strategies, they commended the time, resources and energy Wiltshire Police committed "to improving outcomes for children."

I am pleased Wiltshire Police chose to invest in enhanced training across the organisation. Wiltshire Police Officers and Staff received bespoke child vulnerability identification training and MASH specialist decision making and risk management. Further Force investment has occurred to improve the training business planning model and increase accessibility.

More needs to be done to ensure engagement with children following incidents, is consistent and views recorded to the highest standards. I am extremely pleased officers and staff were positive when it comes to AWARE (Appearance, Words, Activity, Relationships, Environment) principles, and look forward to this being reflected in the quality of work completed.

The OPCC (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) will continue to monitor resilience in the Child Abuse Investigation team and Sentinel. The force must commit to ensuring detective numbers remain high. Not only meeting demand but committing to provide the resources to ensure CSE cases are identified, interventions implemented, and the performance of investigations reach outstanding.

OPCC assurance work has been conducted in the CCC (Crime & Communications Centre) and I agree with HMICFRS assessment. Additional support is being offered and investment in new ICT agreed. Wiltshire Police must do everything they can to ensure they improve missing children and THRIVE (Threat Harm Risk Investigation Vulnerability Evaluation) performance. Also, robust work to ensure MOSOVO use the correct software efficiently and tightened performance must be driven effectively.

The remaining recommendations have been accepted by Wiltshire Police. I will continue to monitor and scrutinise progress. I value the findings of the HMICFRS NCPI post-inspection review and expect to see important improvements delivered over the next year.