

## **RESPONSE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER OF DEVON, CORNWALL AND THE ISLES OF SCILLY TO THE HMICFRS REPORT:**

### **THE POLICE RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC ABUSE – AN UPDATE REPORT**

#### **Chief Constable's comments**

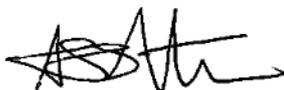
The Chief Constable welcomes the continued HMICFRS focus on domestic abuse and the progress this report reflects is being made. Developing and improving the service to victims of domestic abuse remains a top priority for the Force. The Force has sought views from other forces on its approach to vulnerability through a peer review. It also actively seeks victim feedback on the service it provides, a practice the HMICFRS reflect is not happening in all forces as it should. This report makes no recommendations but links closely to the Integrated PEEL Assessment process which will be conducted by the HMICFRS in Devon and Cornwall in July 2019. Work continues to deliver the domestic abuse action plan in Devon and Cornwall as part of the national domestic abuse action plan.

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

The Commissioner welcomes the report on the progress being made by police forces to address domestic abuse. Domestic abuse remains a priority for the Commissioner and features prominently in the newly published Devon and Cornwall Strategic Assessment prepared jointly by analysts and practitioners from across the Community Safety Partnerships in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The PSA will assist inform the partnership work to be taken forward in the coming year.

The Commissioner is particularly pleased to see HMICFRS recognises the excellent Operation Encompass – which has its origins in the south west, and provides links between the police and schools so that children who have witnessed domestic abuse in the home can be supported and safeguarded where necessary.

It is also pleasing to see the practice to recruit vulnerability lawyers in Devon and Cornwall Police has been recognised by HMICFRS and is noted in the report.



**Alison Hernandez**  
**Police and Crime Commissioner**  
**Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly**