

To: The Home Secretary  
Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary  
and Fire and Rescue Services

9 May 2023

Dear Home Secretary and HMICFRS,

**Response from Dr Alan Billings, Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire to the HMICFRS Report: An inspection of how well the police tackle serious youth violence**

Whilst South Yorkshire was not one of the 12 police force areas to be chosen to take part in the National Thematic Inspection, I welcome the findings of this inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS).

The Inspection covered the following subjects:

- how the police work with Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) and partner organisations to reduce serious youth violence;
- how well the police use their powers to reduce serious youth violence, and whether they understand racial disproportionality; and
- how well the police work with partner organisations and take a public health approach to serious youth violence.

The Inspectorate made four recommendations, two for the Home Office and two for chief constables.

South Yorkshire Police has accepted the two recommendations for chief constables. A lead officer has been appointed and these recommendations are being progressed in line with the March 2024 deadline.

My office will be monitoring progress of the recommendations.

Regular updates on all HMICFRS recommendations and areas for improvement will also be provided at my Public Accountability Board.

All good wishes



Dr Alan Billings  
South Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner

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