

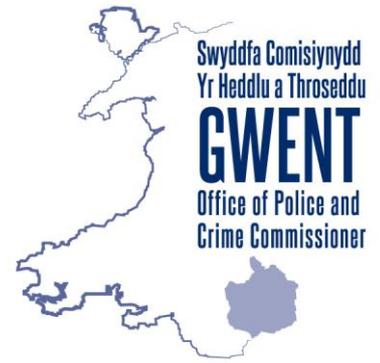
Swyddfa Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu, Gwent
Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, Gwent

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Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddu ar gyfer Gwent | Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent:
Ian Johnston QPM

The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
LONDON
SW1P 4DF

12th January, 2015

Dear Home Secretary

HMIC Inspection: Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy

As required by statute, I am writing to you with my comments on the HMIC report on Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy.

Whilst I welcome the inspection by HMIC and recognise that there are clearly areas for improvement, I feel that the report does not reflect the operational challenges the Force has faced in the last year in policing the NATO summit or the financial constraints the Force faces, which are amongst the most challenging in the country. I was disappointed that Gwent received a result of 'requiring improvement' in all three areas bearing in mind the amount of work that has been undertaken to address the issues that we were already aware of.

I was particularly disappointed that an increase in recorded crime is seen as deteriorating performance by the HMIC especially as the Chief Constable and I have focused on the importance of ethical crime recording and we have recently been deemed to be performing well by the inspectorate on crime data integrity.

It is important to me that Victim Satisfaction improves and the introduction of a Victims Hub and the CARES programme (giving officers and staff the right mechanism and resources to best serve victims) are just two examples of Gwent Police putting victims at the heart of everything we do.

Every effort is now being made to address the large number (89) of recommendations made by HMIC. I monitor key recommendations via my Strategy and Performance Board, the forum where I hold the Chief Constable to account and I am represented at meetings the Chief Constable has been undertaking with his senior staff to address all of the recommendations within HMIC reports.

The confidence of the people of Gwent is vitally important to me and I look forward to continuing to work together with the inspectorate to improve the service for the people of Gwent.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Johnston', with a horizontal line underneath.

Ian Johnston QPM
Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent

Cc: Dru Sharpling, HMI
Jeff Farrar, Chief Constable