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Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddu Gwent | Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent: Jane Mudd

The Right Honourable Shabana Mahmood
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
LONDON
SW1P 4DF

20th January 2026

Dear Home Secretary,

Report on How Effectively do the Police Record Crime? PEEL Spotlight Report

As required by statute, I am writing to you in response to the inspection report from His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service (HMICFRS) entitled, 'Report on How Effectively do the Police Record Crime? PEEL Spotlight Report'.

I welcome the findings in the report that highlight the substantial progress police forces have made in accurately recording crime, which is essential for ensuring victims receive the support they need and for maintaining public trust in policing. There is clearly more work still to be done across policing to ensure crimes do not go unrecorded.

Following the recent 2023-2025 PEEL report, Gwent Police were rated as one of 9 forces graded as 'Outstanding' in relation to Crime Recording. It is particularly pleasing to see this recognition, as it reflects the continued commitment to accuracy, transparency, and improvement in policing standards. Accurate and consistent data is vital not only for effective operations, but also for protecting victims' rights, shaping personalised support services, and ensuring prompt, coordination responses across all relevant agencies.

I recently scrutinised Gwent Police's annual crime data integrity report that was submitted to my Accountability and Assurance Board, where I publicly hold the Chief Constable to account for police performance. I remain assured that the standards recognised in the PEEL inspection are being maintained after reviewing the report.

This is also reflected by the Chief Constable in his comments below:

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg, a phan ddaw i law, byddwn yn ateb yn y Gymraeg – ni fydd hyn yn gohiri ein hymateb. Os hoffech dderbyn gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg o hyn ymlaen, neu os ydych wedi cael eich gwahoddi gyfweliad neu gyfarfod ac yr hoffech ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg, anfonwch e-bost at: Commissioner@gwent.police.uk. Darperir gwasanaethau cyfieithu.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and where received, we will reply in Welsh - this will not delay our response. If you wish to receive correspondence in Welsh hereafter or if you have been invited to an interview or meeting and you wish to use Welsh, send email to: Commissioner@gwent.police.uk. Translation services will be provided.

I welcome this spotlight report from His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, which examines the way police forces are recording crime, drawing together the findings of the Crime Data Integrity and PEEL programmes. The report highlights the positive changes that have been introduced that have led to improvements in the overall crime recorded.

In Gwent, I am pleased to report that the force was inspected for Crime Recording as part of the PEEL 2023-25 inspection cycle and received an 'Outstanding' grading. Of note, the Inspectorate found that the force is recording 95.6% of all reported crime (excluding fraud).

However, as the report emphasises, too many offences still go unrecorded and there are further improvements to be made regarding violent crime, offences linked to domestic abuse and training for officers and staff. The recommendations made in the report for Chief Constables have been shared with our Force Crime Registrar to implement.

The force position with regards to how it plans to address the recommendations is as follows:

Recommendation 1 – Forces need to improve their recording of all violent crime, in particular conduct crimes such as harassment, stalking and controlling or coercive behaviour and less serious assaults:

In response to a recommendation made in the 'Report on the Suzy Lamplugh Trust's super-complaint: The police response to stalking', the force has implemented a daily audit of these crimes to ensure that the correct crime has been recorded. There will also be a new section added to the records management system to add any additional offences the victim has reported to the police.

Recommendation 2 – Forces should make sure they quickly and correctly record crimes related to domestic abuse:

The force Crime Data Integrity team review every incident for the previous 24 hours for ethical crime recording, including domestic abuse crimes. This process is embedded into daily business.

Recommendation 3 – Forces need to make sure all officers and staff involved in crime recording are appropriately trained and understand their role in recording crime. They should also make sure there is effective oversight and scrutiny of crime-recording decisions and accuracy:

In terms of training, any changes as to how police forces record crimes is disseminated to the Crime Recording team via the Force Crime Registrar. A training package has been developed to ensure that the team understand the complex rules around crime recording.

With regards to oversight and scrutiny, there are several daily audits conducted by the team to review crimes that have already been recorded to ensure they are correct. A quarterly National Crime Recording Standard audit is also undertaken by this team. This is a sample of 100 occurrences which are reviewed completely including listening to the call from the victim into the control room, right through to if the correct outcome has been applied.

Overall, I am pleased with the outcome of the report, which reflects national improvements as well as highlighting Gwent Police's commitment to accuracy and integrity in recording crime data. Being graded as outstanding is a significant achievement, and while there are still some recommendations to address, they provide a valuable opportunity for us to further strengthen our processes and maintain high standards moving forward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jane Mudd".

Jane Mudd
Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent