Cumbria Office of Police and Crime Commissioner

**Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) response to inspections of Cumbria Constabulary published by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)**

*Section 33 of the Police Act 1996 (as amended by section 37 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017) requires local policing bodies to respond to recommendations in inspectors reports within 56 days.*

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| **Inspection Title:** | A joint thematic inspection of the criminal justice journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders |
| **Date Published:** | 17/11/2021 |
| **Type of Inspection:** | National Inspection |
| **Key Findings** | |
| Between April and May 2021, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation – supported Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, Her Majesty’s Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate, Care Quality Commission, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales, and Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Prisons – Carried out a joint thematic inspection.  This inspection followed the progress of individuals with mental health needs and disorders through the criminal justice system from first contact with the police to release from prison. | |
| **Recommendations:** | |
| 1. Ensure that all dedicated staff receive training on vulnerability which includes inputs on responding to the needs of vulnerable suspects (as well as victims). This should be incorporated within detective training courses. 2. Dip sample (outcome code) OC10 and OC12 cases to assess the standard and consistency of decision making and use this to determine any training or briefing requirements and the need for any ongoing oversight. 3. Review the availability, prevalence, and sophistication of mental health flagging, to enhance this where possible, and to consider what meaningful and usable data can be produced from this. 4. Assure themselves that risks, and vulnerabilities are properly identified during risk assessment processes, particularly for voluntary attendees. They must ensure that risks are appropriately managed, including referrals to Healthcare Partners, Liaison and Diversion and the use of appropriate adults. | |
| **PCC & Chief Constable Response to Report and Recommendation:** | |
| The Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable welcomes this inspection. A joint thematic inspection of the criminal justice journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders.  The Police and Crime Commissioner states: I have reviewed the recommendations for Cumbria, and I am assured that the Constabulary are working to meet the requirements set out in the inspection. The Constabulary undertakes a significant amount of work and assessments to ensure that individuals with mental health needs and disorders are appropriately managed and referred where necessary to Healthcare Partners. | |