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:**  | Neurodiversity in the criminal justice system: A review of evidence |
| **Date Published:** | 15/07/2021 |
| **Type of Inspection:** | National Inspection  |
| **Key Findings**  |
| In December 2020, the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice commissioned HM Inspectorate of Prisons and HM Inspectorate of Probation, with support from HMICFRS, to undertake an independent review of neurodiversity in the criminal justice system (CJS).The review focused on four main themes:* Screening to identify neurodivergence in CJS service users.
* Adjustments that have been made to existing provision to support those with neurodivergent needs.
* Programmes and interventions which have been specifically designed or adapted for neurodivergent needs; and
* Training and support available to staff to help them support people with neurodivergent needs.

The report makes six short recommendations, including an overarching recommendation about coordination.The inspectorates worked with two services with two service user organisations to understand service users’ views. User Voice and KeyRing have produced reports that described the lived experiences of those with neurodivergent conditions within the criminal justice system. |
| **Recommendations:**  |
| Supporting information deleted – no recommendations 10th August 2021 |
| **PCC & Chief Constable Response to Report and Recommendation:** |
|  The Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable both welcome the review from her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) – Neurodiversity in the criminal justice system: A review of evidence:Neurodiversity relates to a number of conditions around brains functions such as Autism, Brain Injuries, Motor Disorders, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and intellectual disabilities.The Police and Crime Commissioner said: “The report highlights the work that is needed at a national level to bring about a consistent approach which will help to identify people coming into custody and who may have specific needs through the criminal justice system as a result of neurodiversity. The focus within the report on training and support for staff, making adjustments to existing provision, and support for persons with neurodivergent needs is helpful. I am committed to ensuring Cumbria Constabulary offers fair treatment to everyone and so I will continue to seek assurance from the Chief Constable that an appropriate response is provided in these cases. |