



Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg yn ogystal â Saesneg.

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Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys response to: HMICFRS State of Policing Report 2025-26.

I welcome His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary (HMCI) State of Policing Report 2025-26, an assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of policing in England and Wales.

I utilise HMICFRS activity to support me in seeking timely, relevant assurances from Dyfed-Powys Police on specific areas of service through various engagements including Policing Board, the forum in which I hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of policing services across Dyfed-Powys. This is one of my responsibilities as Police and Crime Commissioner.

I would like to echo HMCI's tribute to the six officers who sadly lost their lives in the course of their duties during the period covered by the report.

I support HMCI's position in that the National Policing Service (NPS) must establish clear tripartite governance and accountability arrangements from the outset. This is a key reform principle for me and wider members of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners. I also question the intended funding arrangements for the NPS. To maintain public confidence and transparency, it is essential for Local Policing Bodies, Chief Constables and the Home Secretary to be involved in these arrangements, which will also enable greater national coordination.

Inspection evidence does not indicate support for complete force mergers. The report recognises leadership, governance, workforce capability and operating models as having a much greater effect on performance than the size of the force. Any structural reform should be evidence-led, not undermine responsiveness to community needs. I question the financial cost of policing reform as my focus is to ensure the public receive an effective and efficient police service.

Good policing performance is driven by robust, ethical leadership, local oversight and democratic accountability. It is imperative that greater Home Secretary oversight of police performance, including the reintroduction of national targets must not compromise operational independence or encourage perverse outcomes. We must ensure that systems do not prioritise target attainment over outcomes for local victims and communities.

Crime prevention must be a shared responsibility, and reform must extend beyond policing. The report does not acknowledge the opportunities around devolution or the need for place-based partnership working to prevent

crime and support police outcomes. To tackle the root causes of crime and reduce demand, it is essential that policing, local authorities, health services, education, housing and the voluntary sector work together.

My team and I will continue to work closely with Dyfed-Powys Police representatives to ensure all relevant learning from insights generated through HMICFRS activity is acted upon to improve the policing service for the residents of the Dyfed-Powys area.