

**NORTHUMBRIA PCC RESPONSE TO HMICFRS
INSPECTIONS OF NORTHUMBRIA POLICE**

Inspection title	PEEL spotlight report: Shining a light on betrayal: Abuse of position for a sexual purpose
Type of inspection	<input type="checkbox"/> Northumbria-specific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Thematic
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Recommendations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Local

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I welcome this report from HMICFRS into how forces are tackling abuse of position for a sexual purpose. I am pleased to see the continuing hard work and improvements of forces since 2015, 2016 and 2017, but note that there is more work to be done to improve forces' response.

I take note of the 5 recommendations concerning vetting, ICT monitoring, counter-corruption recording and strategy and use of encrypted apps. Northumbria Police have provided me with the current force position in these areas, as well as an identification of activity needed to improve current practice. For example, the force has undertaken a review of vetting, resulted in changes to its structure, introducing a Supervisor role, Senior Researcher and additional Researchers in order to focus on the delivery of vetting against business needs and national guidelines. The force are further conducting a specialist review of their use of encrypted apps on police ICT systems to understand the risk they pose and to take any necessary steps to mitigate that risk.

I am confident the force will continue taking appropriate action to satisfy the recommendations and improve their practice. I will continue to monitor progress through my monthly Scrutiny meetings

Yours sincerely



Kim McGuinness
PCC for Northumbria