

## NORTHUMBRIA PCC RESPONSE TO HMICFRS INSPECTIONS OF NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

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| <b>Inspection title</b>                    | The poor relation: The police and CPS response to crimes against older people                       |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Northumbria-specific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Thematic |
| <b>Date inspection published</b>           | 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2019  |
| <b>Deadline for PCC response (56 days)</b> | 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2019   |
| <b>Recommendations</b>                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> Local                         |

### NORTHUMBRIA PCC RESPONSE TO SECRETARY OF STATE AND HMICFRS

I welcome HMICFRS and HMICPS' national report '*The poor relation*'. With an increasingly elderly population, it is important that we ensure that any additional needs of this group of victim-survivors are recognized and met.

Although Northumbria Police was not one of the 6 forces visited, the inspection has identified the need for improvements, both regionally and nationally.

Following the report, my office has liaised with Northumbria Police. The force already ensure that a needs assessment is carried out for every victim, with a high completion rate for victims over 60. Following a report of crime, all victims are offered a referral to Victims First Northumbria, which has a specialist elderly support service. However, the force are aware that improvements can be made, some of which require the upcoming IT system upgrades and further work.

The Chief Constable has confirmed that Northumbria Police are already making progress in the following areas:

- Consideration of designing the future IT systems to ensure that data relating to adult safeguarding is more easily accessible.
- Joint work between Northumbria Police, Northumbria OPCC and the Local Criminal Justice partnership to review victim services and pathways in order to identify any gaps in service or where improvements can be made.
- Amending the LCJB performance framework to capture data on victims over the age of 60, ensuring they are offered special measures and the option to give remote evidence where relevant.

I am confident the force will continue taking appropriate action to satisfy the recommendations and support collaborative efforts nationally and regionally. I will continue to monitor Northumbria's progress to ensure elderly victims in our area are receiving the level of service they deserve through my Scrutiny process.

Yours sincerely



Kim McGuinness –  
PCC for Northumbria