

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

Inspection title	An Inspection of the North-East regional response to serious and organised crime
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Recommendations	Local

NORTHUMBRIA PCC RESPONSE TO HMICFRS

I welcome this inspection report concerning the North East regional response to serious and organised crime (SOC). It is important that forces work closely with ROCUs, following the objective set out in the national SOC Strategy, to achieve a 'whole system' approach to tackling SOC.

I was pleased to read that there are good relationships between the ROCU and the 3 NE forces forces, but I note that closer working is required in some cases.

Northumbria Police have briefed me on the current position and the work planned to improve their response to SOC. For example:

- Since the inspection, work has been undertaken that has reduced the backlog of referrals within the Paedophile Online Investigation Team. However, it will take more time to further reduce the backlog. An assessment is taking place in relation to the capacity within Financial Investigation and the Covert Authorities Bureau.
- The Cleveland 4P plan template has been obtained and modified for use in Northumbria. Tailored 4P plans are now being populated by Area Commands and progress is being tracked via the Northumbria SOC Governance Group.
- A SOC Community Co-ordinator is now in place within the NEROCU, and since the inspection regular meetings have been put in place to monitor progress of activity within the Clear, Hold, Build areas.
- The Force now has a small number of SOC vulnerabilities mapped on the SOC master list which includes one of the Clear, Hold, Build areas. Work is underway to submit the remaining Clear, Hold Build Areas onto the SOC master list.

I acknowledge the AFI directed at Northumbria Police, regarding the need to ensure that there are sufficient resources in specialist areas to meet serious and organised crime demand and will monitor this through my Scrutiny process.

Yours sincerely



Kim McGuinness
PCC for Northumbria