



Sir Thomas Winsor
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary
HMICFRS
6th Floor
Globe House
89 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1PN

22 December 2017

Dear Sir Winsor,

I am grateful for the opportunity Police and Crime Commissioners have been given to contribute to the consultation on Force Management Statements.

The role of HMICFRS in inspecting force's efficiency and effectiveness is an important one and we must work together to ensure that inspectors have the information they need to make their assessments. In doing so we must also ensure, however, that unnecessary bureaucratic burden on police forces is avoided and that the statutory role of the Police and Crime Commissioners is not interfered with.

I have very strong concerns that the approach being taken by HMICFRS in relation to Force Management Statements is wrong and will cause major issues for police forces and Police and Crime Commissioners.

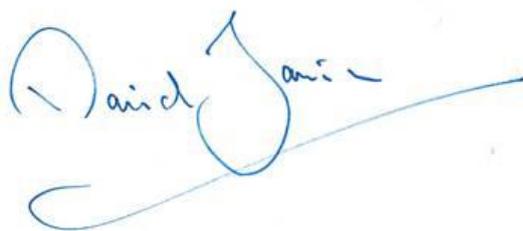
Police and Crime Commissioners with democratic mandates and legislative backing set the strategic direction for police forces. HMICFRS does not and should not as there is no democratic mandate for it to do so. If the approach set out in the consultation document were adopted there is not only a risk of confusion, but more fundamentally an undermining of the democratic process.

The prescriptive nature of Force Management Statements and the lack of consideration in the consultation of how they fit with other data demands on forces could lead to the creation of substantial additional burden on forces. At a time when forces are still facing real-terms government cuts, extreme prescriptive reporting requirements for inspection risk becoming additional regulatory burden pulling resources away from the frontline.

The inspection regime must be proportionate and, while allowing for assessments across all forces, must be flexible in recognition of the local contexts and priorities. It must also allow for flexibility in responding to emerging threads. Coverage of cybercrime and fraud for example seem woefully inadequate. Finally a modern inspection regime must be focussed on forces delivering outcomes for the public they serve.

Please find attached my full detailed response. I hope you find it useful and my input is given careful consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Jamieson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

David Jamieson
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner