



Home Secretary
c/o Gareth Redmond
Head of Police Transparency Unit
Home Office, Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

12th January 2015

Dear Home Secretary

North Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCCs) response to the HMIC Thematic report on "Crime Data Integrity" dated November 2014.

Victims are at the centre of what I do, their needs come first and they must have the confidence to report crime to us. What really matters is that victims of crime feel confident that they will be taken seriously when they report an incident, and that North Yorkshire Police will investigate every case fully and provide the necessary emotional and practical support in order to be able to cope and recover.

North Yorkshire Police has made changes to the way they record crimes on their system, but the fundamental policy, which is to investigate every crime that is reported to North Yorkshire Police has not changed. As you will know, even when a case had been deemed 'no crime', that does not mean that an investigation has not taken place and those involved offered the appropriate support. The HMIC's report also found that there was no evidence of any pressure to under-record or misclassify crimes or work outside National Crime Recording Standards.

Locally the police have implemented the vast majority of the HMIC's recommendations from August 2014, and the remainder are in progress. These include taking active steps to focus on victim needs by introducing the THRIVE model in to the Force Control Room. This means the police look at each crime from a victim's perspective, and the possible threat, harm, risk and vulnerability, as well as the support that victims might need.

There is no room for complacency, but it is encouraging that we have recently seen an increase in the number of victims who are prepared to come forward and report domestic and sexual abuse to North Yorkshire Police. This shows that some of the most vulnerable people do have confidence that we will investigate every case, and those who commit a criminal offence will be relentlessly pursued.

Yours sincerely

Julia Mulligan
Police & Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire

