

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the publication of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMICFRS) - National Child Protection Inspections 2019 (Feb 2020).

[The report can be found here](#)

On 27th February 2020 HMICFRS published its thematic report into National Child Protection. In this report HMICFRS called for police and partner agencies to improve how they work together to protect children. Inspectors report that:

- Police forces have improved their understanding of the risks around vulnerable children;
- Protecting vulnerable children is a priority for policing leaders, but it requires further resourcing at a time of decreasing officer numbers and budget cuts;
- The approach of the police and partners is not proactive enough in identifying children that could be at risk of abuse; and
- The current system is unsustainable. The police can't do this work alone. More resourcing needs to be given, not just in policing, to help support and protect vulnerable children.

To achieve the best possible outcomes for children, HMICFRS recommend leaders in all agencies with the shared responsibility of protecting children need to improve how they work together. Police chiefs and other agencies need to develop coherent protection plans, at a local level, to better identify children who are potentially at risk.

Protecting children is one of main priorities and for this reason I set the Chief Constable four specific strategic objectives in my Police and Crime Delivery Plan (2020-21):

- Work with partners and stakeholders to become more trauma informed and to combat adverse childhood experiences
- Continue to work in partnership to provide an effective response to missing children and persons from hospital, home and care settings

- Establish a dedicated county lines police team to safeguard children from exploitation and victimisation
- Work with partners to ensure agencies are meeting safeguarding responsibilities under the Care Act 2014

The report makes six recommendations three of which relate to Chief Constables.

The Force will continue to use its dedicated 4ACTION database for tracking and responding to all HMICFRS recommendations and areas for improvement overseen by the Deputy Chief Constable. The Force also provides regular HMICFRS update reports to my Joint Audit and Scrutiny Panel (JASP) who provide additional scrutiny in these important areas.

Yours sincerely



Paddy Tipping
Police and Crime Commissioner