

**The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the publication of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMICFRS) - Roads Policing: Not optional (July 2020).**

[The report can be found here](#)

Between October and December 2019 HMICFRS visited seven Police forces in England and Wales, reviewing documents such as strategies, action plans, policies and procedures, some of which were specific to each organisation. The Department for Transport also provided HMICFRS with data.

This is a national report which excludes Nottinghamshire Police but nevertheless there are some useful findings to consider and respond to locally.

The report makes 13 recommendations 6 of which are specific to all Chief Constables in order to:

- give clarity and guidance to the police and other bodies about their collective responsibilities;
- improve forces' understanding of the risks faced by road users in their areas;
- make sure forces and road safety partners work together effectively;
- bring about compliance with national guidance on the use of speed and red-light cameras; and
- provide greater support and training to officers who investigate road deaths.

There are however, a few recommendations which seem to go too far in encouraging too great a central control over things like police and crime plans, which risk losing the strength of the current system in its local accountability and ability to tackle issues which matter locally, and instead seek to impose a one size fits all approach.

For example, the use of section 7(4) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to issue guidance on what should be included within future police and crime plans has never been used. We cannot make everything a priority.

In Nottinghamshire the number of people killed or seriously injured has reduced and I am satisfied with the current arrangements in place.

For instance, the Force Management statement submitted to HMICFRS identifies a downward trajectory of people killed or seriously injured (KSIs) in Nottinghamshire as shown in the table below.

	2018	2019	Change
Fatal Collisions	23	20	-3
Fatal Injury Casualties	23	20	-3
Serious Collisions	386	317	-69
Serious Injury Casualties	411	339	-72
Slight Collisions	2028	1296	-732
Slight Injury Casualties	2729	1632	-1097

The Nottinghamshire Safety Camera Partnership will be continuing its current work to reduce road casualties with a view to increase true cross partner working and will do this through a number of ways. For example by forging links with Roads Policing officers who have dedicated responsibilities to consider around vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists/horse riders, motorcyclists) to enable joined up working. The partnership will also take responsibility for dash cam footage reviewing, allocation and diversionary course/prosecution and continuing to support local educational posts through funding.

The Force is also looking to increase the efficiency of the traffic safety vans by introducing single crewing and increasing the breadth of investigative opportunities for the in-house investigators to conclude cases to include interviewing.

Specialist Roads Policing teams are provided by the Armed Response Vehicle (ARV) capability, a specialist Roads Policing Unit (RPU) and the Serious Collisions Investigation Unit (SCIU). The latter two share an Inspector to ensure a holistic approach to policing the roads. During 2019, the Force invested in training its ARV Sgt's and other Operational Support Inspectors to deal with serious and fatal collisions.

The Roads Policing Unit (RPU) is made up of the Road Crime Team and Roads Policing Team who are tasked in accordance with national and local roads policing initiatives and focus on the specialist areas of enforcement where enhanced training and experience are required such as pursuit, fast roads and motorway incidents.

In my Police and Crime Delivery Plan (2020-21) I have set the Chief Constable two strategic objectives which relate to roads policing:

- *Increase our roads policing capability to disrupt the criminal use of our road network*
- *Provide support to Nottinghamshire Road Safety Partnership in reducing road traffic casualties and addressing issues of community concern*

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