

18 October 2023

Dear HMICFRS

I acknowledge that the His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) team published on the 11 August 2023, An inspection of the police contribution to the prevention of homicide.

<https://hmicfrs.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/publications/inspection-of-the-police-contribution-to-the-prevention-of-homicide/>

I note during this inspection you have made three recommendations:

Recommendation 1

By 1 December 2023, the Home Office should make sure that forces can provide it with relevant, detailed information on each homicide either via the online portal or through another secure method. The Home Office should update its guidance to police forces accordingly.

Recommendation 2

By 31 August 2024, chief constables in England and Wales should devise an approach to make sure their force can, on a sufficiently frequent basis, produce an analytical report concerning its death investigations. This will help the force to:

- better understand the pattern of death reports across the force area, drawing on force data and information gathered by other organisations, including the NHS and local authorities; and
- identify any linked series of death reports.

Recommendation 3

By 1 December 2023, chief constables should make sure their force can quickly identify lessons from homicides and serious violence incidents. The process should be capable of involving partner organisations when appropriate, so that lessons can be learned more widely.

Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire

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Bedfordshire Police have provided a comprehensive update to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and are assured with work being completed in this area of business.

Recommendations will continue to be monitored through our governance board meetings.

Yours Sincerely

Festus Akinbusoye
Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire

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