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The Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP
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Dear Home Secretary

HMIC PEEL Inspection Report – Efficiency

I am writing to you with my comments on the HMIC PEEL report entitled 'Police Efficiency 2016: An Inspection of Humberside Police'.

I would like to start by saying that I am very supportive of the role of the inspectorate. They are a vital component to transparency, accountability and general performance.

When I was elected in May 2016 I wanted to see a plan from Humberside Police to turn around the Force's performance. I am encouraged to see an improvement over last year's efficiency assessment of 'Inadequate'.

This latest HMIC assessment is one component in a much bigger picture. However, if their assessment had indicated that little progress had been made, I would have been deeply concerned.

I have had the opportunity over the last six months to examine more closely how Humberside Police has reacted to the previous assessment. This has allowed me to form my own views on how the Force is developing. I identified a number of the same issues picked up by HMIC. I have been working with the Chief Constable to reassure myself that plans are being developed to address deficiencies.

As part of my role, it is important that I encourage a long-term programme of continuous improvement and not a series of knee-jerk reactions to new initiatives or thematic reports. The residents of the Humberside Police area deserve a Force focussed on delivering the service they want and need, through incremental and sustainable improvement.

In summary, I welcome the assessment by Michael Cunningham and his team, as this indicates the first small steps have been made. There is of course still some way to go, but I do think the Force are planting the right seeds and my assessment into the future will be based on how they cultivate those. Future HMIC assessments will assist me in determining progress and I will continue to work positively with the inspectorate.

I will post this response onto my web-site for public access.

Yours sincerely

Keith Hunter
Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside

cc: Rt Hon Brandon Lewis MP

Vera Baird QC, Chair Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

Justine Curran, Chief Constable, Humberside Police

Sir Thomas Winsor, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary

Michael Cunningham, HM Inspector of Constabulary, Northern Region

Councillor Evison, Chair of the Humberside Police and Crime Panel