



Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
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Cc: HMICFRS

Our Ref: JC/jpi

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Pre-charge bail and released under investigation. Striking a balance

I am writing to you in response to the above joint HMICFRS / HMCPSI inspection report. Having read the report I am pleased that the report acknowledges the challenges faced by all forces in implementing the legislative changes, which was compounded by a lack of guidance and a lack of thought as to how the changes would impact victims.

The report contains a number of recommendations, the majority of which are directed at the Home Office, NPCC and the College of Policing, however there are two that are applicable to all police forces. There is a very clear synergy between these two recommendations and the cause of concern relating to investigations identified in the last PEEL inspection of West Mercia.

As a result of significant work undertaken in response to the investigations cause of concern I am satisfied that the force is able to demonstrate that it has implemented the recommendation that forces should develop processes and systems to clearly show whether suspects are on bail or RUI. This was verified by HMICFRS in its recent inspection.

Work to address the second recommendation that forces should record whether a suspect is on bail or RUI on the MG3 form when it is submitted to the CPS, is well progressed. Processes are now in place, however further work is now needed to embed the changes within the workforce.

Overall I am satisfied that the approach the force is taking will go some way towards protecting the public

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Campion". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

John Campion
Police & Crime Commissioner
West Mercia