



OPCC

Office of the Police &
Crime Commissioner
for Gloucestershire

21st July 2021

Policing in a Pandemic- Response to the report by HMICFRS

HMICFRS have created two extensive reports on police forces response during the coronavirus pandemic, which can be found [here](#). Nineteen forces were chosen for inspection and Gloucestershire Constabulary was one of ten from those nineteen who were inspected on their preparedness and custody questions. From these inspections the report made several recommendations. The Constabulary responded to these recommendations in the below letter.

I agree with the response by the Deputy Chief Constable, and I am also pleased to see alongside the recommendations that the report has acknowledged the positive work which the constabulary has undertaken over the past 18 months.

Chris Nelson

Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucester



Mr Richard Bradley
Chief Executive
Office Police and Crime Commissioner –
Gloucestershire

Our Ref: JS-jms/Bradley HMICFRS Policing in a
pandemic & Custody in Covid19

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Dial:

Date: 02 June 2021

Dear Richard

Re: Policing in the Pandemic

The police response to the coronavirus pandemic during 2020, and

Custody services in a COVID-19 environment

Please find below our response to the above two reports, aimed at assisting you to meet the requirements of Section 55(1) of the Police Act 1996.

The two reports are taken from one inspection and represent a thematic assessment for the police service. Of the 19 forces chosen for inspection, ten forces were inspected for preparedness; five for custody and ten for the five policing themes. Gloucestershire Constabulary was inspected on the preparedness and custody questions.

We were pleased to note that the Policing in a pandemic report noted some of the positive work that we have undertaken. This includes the previously commissioned capability review to understand what support the third sector (charities, voluntary and community groups) could offer the LRF during major incidents (P15). Our in-depth review and lessons learned work, together with new processes introduced to address the findings (P42). And our partnership with Avon and Somerset Police, working with the court service, to set up a court for remand hearings only. Reducing the delays by removing the need for such hearings to be slotted in between other defendants due to appear before the courts (P50).

There are recommendations for a number of agencies. The eight recommendations relating to the Police Service, together with an assessment of force activity against is outlined on the attached table.

The Recommendations directed at other agencies do not require individual forces to implement changes at this time. However, we will monitor the outcome for any impact it may subsequently have.



Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jon Stratford', with a horizontal line underneath.

Jon Stratford
Deputy Chief Constable

Att/.
