

## **Crime Inspection 2014 – Devon & Cornwall Police Force report**

**November 2014**

### **Background**

This inspection considered how effective police forces are at cutting crime. The public expects the police to reduce, prevent and investigate crime, bring suspects to justice and, in conjunction with other services and agencies, care for victims. To assess each force's effectiveness, three specific areas were examined:

How effective is the force at reducing crime and preventing offending?

How effective is the force at investigating offending?

How effective is the force at tackling anti-social behaviour?

### **Police & Crime Commissioners Response**

I welcome the report describing the results of Her Majesty of Inspectorates inspection of how effective Devon & Cornwall Police are at managing and reducing crime.

I was pleased to see that the report graded Devon and Cornwall Police as 'good' on all three of the areas inspected.

The positive commentary on partnership working in Devon & Cornwall was particularly welcome and I congratulate the police and their partners in achieving this feedback, especially in light of the complex partnership context in Devon & Cornwall and some of the significant challenges that are presented to delivering effective partnership working within the peninsula.

The report also recognises the strategic focus on a victim-centred service contained within my Police & Crime Plan and the good work of the police in delivering this across our extensive geography. My office is working in collaboration with the police and other partners to improve the service offering to victims still further through the development of a Victims Care Unit within the police, supported by an extensive network of victims service providers which can be accessed by victims regardless of whether they report to the police.

The strong emphasis on local policing and effective problem solving within neighbourhoods in Devon & Cornwall is also recognised, and support my view this approach is important to the public.

The recommendations focus on ensuring that sufficient resources continue to be made available to support the relatively high burden of domestic abuse within the force and to ensure that victims are appropriately supported and on ensuring that opportunities for organisational learning are not lost. I shall continue to work with the Chief Constable and other partners to deliver a high standard of crime prevention and support to victims. I will continue to hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of effective and efficient investigations.