



Protecting Communities
Fighting Crime



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5th June 2026

Dear Roy,

Accelerated Cause of Concern – Child Protection

I am writing to you to formally respond to the accelerated cause of concern published on 10 April 2026, following HMICFRS's inspection of Derbyshire Constabulary's child protection arrangements.

In its executive summary, the report highlights an accelerated cause of concern on the basis that the Constabulary does not consistently recognise risks to children or respond effectively to those risks. The findings identify weaknesses at the initial point of contact, including inconsistent application of risk assessment, limited supervisory oversight, and delays in response which may leave children at risk of harm.

The report is accompanied by seven recommendations requiring the constabulary to strengthen how risks are identified, assessed and managed, and to ensure that responses to incidents involving children are appropriate, timely and effective from first contact through to investigation and safeguarding.

I have formally raised these findings with the Chief Constable and have been assured that the Constabulary fully accepts the concerns identified. A comprehensive improvement plan has been developed at pace, setting out clear actions, governance and timescales to address the issues raised.

I understand that the Constabulary's response is focused on immediate stabilisation, strengthening capability, and delivering sustainable system-wide improvements. Early action has included the rapid rollout of THRIVE refresher training across the Contact Management Centre, with over 100 staff having already received training and further cohorts scheduled. In parallel, structured quality assurance processes have been introduced, enabling improved oversight of risk assessment, decision-making and response.



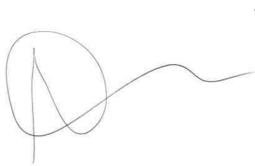
The Constabulary has also made progress in improving supervisory oversight and governance. A structured QA framework is now embedded, with outputs reported through regular Gold and Silver meetings, providing ongoing scrutiny and assurance. In addition, revised supervisory processes and Incident Risk Management Meeting arrangements are strengthening the consistency of oversight and review.

Further work is underway to improve the identification and management of vulnerability. This includes the introduction of the Vulnerability Assessment and Safeguarding Team (VAST), enhanced visibility of THRIVE assessments within incident systems, and the development of new training programmes to build capability across the workforce. The Constabulary is also trialling innovative approaches, including AI-supported THRIVE tools, to improve quality and consistency in risk assessment.

I am assured that delivery of the improvement plan is supported by robust governance arrangements, including clear ownership at Chief Officer level and regular performance monitoring through established Force Governance Boards. My office will continue to maintain oversight of progress through these arrangements to ensure that improvements are both delivered at pace and sustained over time.

I would like to extend my thanks to HMICFRS for this important report. I welcome continued engagement as the Constabulary progresses this programme of work and I look forward to receiving further updates on improvements made against these recommendations.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'N' followed by a wavy line.

Commissioner Nicolle Ndiweni-Roberts

Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire

