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10th April 2024

Roy Wilsher OBE QFSM HMI, Eastern Region HMICFRS First Floor 70 Petty France LONDON SW1H 9EX

Dear Roy,

Deployment of Firearms

I am writing to you to formally respond to the inspection report on how effective police forces are in the deployment of firearms, published in July 2023.

In its summary, the report nationally explores whether the public can be confident in the processes and structures in place to ensure that forces comply with the legislation and guidance around armed policing. It also sought to identify whether the training for command roles was effective, as well as, to understand the capacity and capability of forces to effectively deploy firearms in and across county borders.

In your report you set out eight recommendations related to policing. These require the Chief Constable to ensure that specialist firearms commanders and specialist tactical firearms commanders are available via 24-hour rotas and are equipped with the latest relevant training. Furthermore on training, the report requires the Chief to ensure that all relevant staff are trained to utilise the ARV asset tracking equipment. Additionally, forces should increase their cooperation and engagement with the National Armed Policing Portfolio meetings and ensure that armed deployment records are auditable.

I have formally raised this report with the Chief Constable, and I am assured that Derbyshire Constabulary are actively engaged in responding to the report.

Please be assured that I will continue to monitor progress towards these as part of my regular scheduled governance of the operations of the Constabulary.

I would like to extend my thanks to all those involved in this inspection and look forward to further feedback in due course.

Yours Sincerely,

Angelique Foster

Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner