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HMI, Eastern Region
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4th September 2025

Dear Roy,

Joint Case Building by the Police and Crown Prosecution Service: Final Report

I am writing to you to formally respond to the inspection report titled “Joint Case Building by the Police and Crown Prosecution Service: Final Report”, published in July 2025.

This report looks at how well the Police and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) work together to build criminal cases. It found that they often don’t work together as smoothly as they should. Case files are sometimes poor in quality, and sharing digital evidence can be slow and difficult. There also isn’t a clear way to check how well the process is working.

The report makes 18 recommendations nationally to help address these problems, of which 3 are for local forces to address. These include making case files more consistent, improving how digital evidence is shared, and making sure both the Police and CPS regularly check how well they are doing.

Derbyshire Police has strengthened its governance arrangements and enhanced performance management processes to ensure investigations are conducted promptly and meet appropriate standards, and building quality case files is a key area within this. A significant development is the establishment of a dedicated Investigative Standards Board, chaired by a Chief Officer and an Investigative Standards Project was established in December 2024 to focus on both the PEEL AFIs and a cultural shift in an investigative mindset across Officers within the Force.

A bespoke performance pack has been developed to establish clear baseline and monitor measurable improvements in both the timeliness and quality of investigations, and the compliance and acceptance of case files by the CPS. The Force’s positive

outcome rate has increased in the last 12 months, and it has significantly improved its CPS first triage acceptance rates.

An Investigative Hub has been launched which provides accessible guidance to support case file building and ensure standards are met. A CJ triage process has been established to align submissions, resulting in improved compliance. In addition, a dedicated CJ analyst post has improved data visibility and oversight, supporting effective management of compliance of case files.

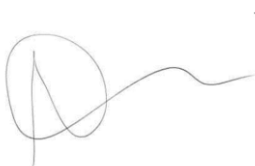
A local Memorandum on Understanding between the Force and the CPS is being written, and a local area Joint Operational Improvement Meeting (JOIM) is co-chaired by the CPS and the Force provides strategic oversight to drive improvements across Derbyshire and between the two organisations. This JOIM will lead the implementation of Derbyshire's training and development plan in this area.

I am pleased that Derbyshire is a pilot Force for the College of Policing's PIP 1 Supervisor's Programme which will enhance decision-making, case progression and confidence in investigations and case file building/compliance checking.

I have raised the report and its recommendations with the Chief Constable, and I am assured that Derbyshire Constabulary are progressing action towards these within the required timescales.

I would like to thank HMICFRS for their work on this important inspection. I look forward to continued collaboration and to reporting further progress on these recommendations in due course.

Kindest regards,

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

Commissioner Nicolle Ndiweni-Roberts

Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire

