6th March 2015

HMIC ‘Integrity Matters’ Inspection

Dear Ms Billingham,

I write in response to the findings of the national ‘Integrity Matters’ report published on 30th January 2015.

Integrity goes to the very heart of good policing and it’s vital that every police officer behaves to the highest ethical standards. To this end I welcome the Inspectorate’s latest report. It is good that HMIC has recognised the progress all police forces are making in tackling corruption, since the initial Inspection findings in 2011. However, as highlighted in the report, there are further steps to be taken.

Here in Greater Manchester the Chief Constable and I have been driving forward work to improve the misconduct process and make sure effective mechanisms are in place to give officers and staff the confidence to speak out against corrupt colleagues.

I have also established an independent ethics committee which looks at complex moral, ethical and integrity issues, and I am also working with GMP to overhaul the complaints system and make it accountable to local people. These steps demonstrate that the Chief Constable and I are serious about driving up standards in GMP to ensure that the people of Greater Manchester can have faith and confidence in their police service.

My office holds regular meetings with senior officers within GMP to ensure the recommendations and learning highlighted in this report and the force specific report are considered and incorporated into an action plan. Progress against this plan will be reported to me alongside updates from the Professional Standards Branch and Counter Corruption Unit through scheduled governance meetings.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Lloyd
Commissioner

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