



Lincolnshire POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

SAFER TOGETHER

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Date: 28th March 2019

Our Ref: MJ/AW/BS/HMIC-2019-008

Ms Zoë Billingham
Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary, Eastern Region
HMICFRS
6th Floor Globe House,
89 Ecclestone Square,
London,
SW1V 1PN.

Dear Zoe,

Subject: HMICFRS Child Protection Inspection Report (Published 14 Feb 2019)

I present my comments in response to the above report within the meaning of s55 (5) of the Police Act 1996. This letter will be copied to the Home Secretary and published on my website.

I am pleased that the inspection report recognises that the chief constable, his senior team and I are clearly committed to protecting vulnerable people, including children. The report also references this commitment which is contained in both the forces strategic policing plan and my police and crime plan. I am encouraged by the commentary on strong and effective joint working arrangements and the examples of good work undertaken by committed and dedicated frontline officers often working in difficult and demanding circumstances.

I value the comprehensive findings of the report as it highlights the specific areas requiring improvement in what is a complex and sensitive area of policing. The report raised some serious concerns for me, although I understand that child protection arrangements were, at the time of the inspection, already under review by the force.

In order to help secure the required improvements my office and I will monitor the progress made against the recommendations and areas for improvement contained in the report through a bespoke HMICFRS tracker document and I have asked to see the force remedial action plan, which records details of progress made.

Overall I recognise that there is much work to be done to fully address the weaknesses identified in the report however, I am heartened by the prompt action already taken by the force and I will continue to monitor their progress.

I should like to re-affirm my commitment to protecting vulnerable children, as a father I appreciate it is one of the most important things the police do, and I expect to see genuine improvement by the time of your follow-up assessment within 6 months of the reports publication.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed within a thin, hand-drawn oval border. The signature is stylized and appears to be the name 'Marc Jones'.

Marc Jones
Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire