



Lincolnshire POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

SAFER TOGETHER

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Date: November 2022

HMI Roy Wilsher,
HMICFRS
6th Floor Globe House,
89 Ecclestone Square,
London,
SW1V 1P

Dear Roy,

Subject: HMICFRS – Inspection of Police Custody Suites in Lincolnshire (Published 3rd August 2022).

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 uploaded to the HMICFRS inspection portal, copied to the Home Secretary, and published on my website.

I value the findings contained in your inspection report as it provides a detailed assessment of force performance in this important and complex area of policing and how well they ensure the legal rights, appropriate treatment, and safety of detainees in police custody as well as their effective management of related resources and maintaining the physical custody environment.

I am reassured by your findings that there are good governance structures for the custody services, to oversee the safe and respectful treatment of those experiencing custody. I am also pleased that you found evidence of good and considered care for neurodivergent detainees and the priority given to divert children and vulnerable adults away from custody by working effectively with partners.

There is much 'good news' in the report. However, I read with interest the 'Causes for Concern' you highlight, and 'Recommendations' you make relating to the better management of risk and the need for improved scrutiny of the use of force within custody, to ensure it is necessary, justified, and proportionate.

The remedial action required has been placed into a bespoke 'action plan' by the force, and I can confirm that I will also monitor the force's progress via the use of a HMICFRS 'tracker' document which records progress against 'Causes for Concern', 'Areas for Improvement' and 'Recommendations' made within all HMICFRS inspection reports. A copy of this tracker document is also provided to our Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC), to help provide assurance on the status of remedial activity.

I remain committed to supporting and challenging the Chief constable to drive the changes required with the aim of enhancing the custody service experienced in Lincolnshire.

Yours sincerely,

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

Marc Jones

Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire