

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the publication of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMICFRS) - Safe to share? Report on Liberty and Southall Black Sisters' super-complaint on policing and immigration status (Dec 2020).

[The report can be found here](#)

This report was published following a policing super-complaint, submitted by Liberty and Southall Black Sisters about the practice of the police sharing of victims' immigration information with the Home Office. This was the first police super-complaint investigation to be published.

A super-complaint is a complaint that "a feature, or combination of features, of policing in England and Wales by one or more than one police force is, or appears to be, significantly harming the interests of the public" (section 29A, Police Reform Act 2002).

A joint investigation by HMICFRS, the College of Policing (CoP) and the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) found that victims of crime with insecure or uncertain immigration status are fearful that, if they report crimes to the police, their information will be shared with the Home Office.

The investigation raises concerns about the effect the sharing of immigration information between police and the Home Office has on victims of crime with unsettled immigration status. The investigation found that the current system was causing significant harm to the public interest.

The investigation looked at migrant victims in highly vulnerable circumstances – usually arising from crimes of domestic abuse or modern slavery and human trafficking – and found that there are inconsistent approaches to information sharing between police and the Home Office about victims and witnesses to crime.

Following this investigation, HMICFRS, the College of Policing and the IOPC have made recommendations for the police, NPCC, APCC and the Home Office to ensure victims of crime are always treated as victims first and foremost, regardless of their immigration status. The report also includes actions for HMICFRS and the College of Policing regarding their own work.

There are eight recommendations of which four are specific to Chief Constables and two for Police and Crime Commissioners. I will ensure these two recommendations are tracked by my office and responded to separately.

The Force will continue to use its dedicated 4ACTION database for tracking and responding to all HMICFRS recommendations and areas for improvement overseen by the Deputy Chief Constable. The Force also provides regular HMICFRS update reports to my Joint Audit and Scrutiny Panel (JASP) who provide additional scrutiny in these important areas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paddy Tipping'.

Paddy Tipping
Police and Crime Commissioner