



POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the publication of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMICFRS) - An inspection of the effectiveness of the Regional Organised Crime Units (Feb 2021).

[The report can be found here](#)

In this inspection, HMICFRS examined how effectively and efficiently the Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCU) tackle the threat from serious and organised crime (SOC). HMICFRS wanted to see how well ROCUs led the response to SOC while working with local police forces and other law enforcement agencies.

Between 21 February and 13 March 2020, HMICFRS attended five of the ROCUs (South East, Yorkshire and the Humber, West Midlands, North West and Eastern Region). After the suspension of inspection activity due to COVID-19, HMICFRS then inspected the North East ROCU and the East Midlands specialist operations unit (which includes Nottinghamshire Police) between 7 and 18 September.

HMICFRS used a common set of questions and held a series of interviews and focus groups with staff in similar roles across the different ROCUs and made six recommendations and raised one cause of concern to further improve the effectiveness of the ROCU network.

In short, HMICFRS found evidence of some good work, but also found inconsistencies across England and Wales in the resourcing, leadership and operation of ROCUs. As a national report, it's not clear whether this related to Nottinghamshire Police.

The last HMICFRS inspection report on ROCUs was published in 2015. Since then, the ROCU network has made substantial progress in some areas, particularly in cybercrime and undercover policing, which have received specific funding.

But the major finding from this report is the lack of a clear and sustainable funding model to make sure the ROCUs a central part of achieving the 2018 Serious and Organised Crime Strategy.

HMICFRS made 7 recommendations made 2 of which were directed to chief constables with specific responsibility for the ROCU in their area.

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