



Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the publication of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) Stop the Drift 2 – A Continuing Focus on 21st Century Criminal Justice (a joint review by HMIC and HMCPsi).

The report can be found [here](#)

As per my statutory responsibility to prepare comments on any of HMIC's published reports, Section 55(5) of the 1996 Police Act, I have read through the report and have noted the revealed bureaucratic processes that kept officers in police stations longer than necessary, especially when dealing with people detained at police stations and processing case files for prosecutions.

I identified in my first Police and Crime Plan the priority to "improve the efficiency, accessibility and effectiveness of the criminal justice process. I have been discussing with the Chief Constable, Chris Eyre the need for effective management and good quality record keeping as this provides good quality assessments of risk, particularly when suspects are detained at police stations. Getting the right information to the right person at the right time is therefore a vital function. Enabling police officers and staff to carry out that function efficiently and effectively, however, requires more than a review of the number of forms required, and there has been progress on digitalisation.

I recognise that an efficient criminal justice system is dependent upon the effective exchange of information between all the relevant agencies. It has been recognised that some activities that support the preparation of good quality information have developed in a fragmented way, generating a considerable amount of paperwork at the expense of a more streamlined operation. The process of arrest to final disposal at court can be time consuming and complex to manage, with many agencies and professionals involved. There has been much work conducted to improve the relationship between the police and the CPS for preparing cases for court, and effective management of building prosecution case files, through improved quality and digitalisation.

My Police and Crime Plan has identified key outcome measures of improved timeliness of court files, improvement of conviction rates and effective trials which meets an objective of delivering a high-quality service to victims and witnesses.

Yours sincerely

Paddy Tipping
Police and Crime Commissioner