

**RESPONSE DATED 7TH SEPTEMBER 2020 TO 'PEEL SPOTLIGHT REPORT: THE HARD YARDS, POLICE-TO-POLICE COLLABORATION' PUBLISHED BY HMICFRS ON 21ST JULY 2020**

This report highlights the challenges of multi-force collaboration and cites the disbandment of Tri-Force, a collaboration involving Avon and Somerset. As I commented in my response to the State of Policing 2019 a fundamental challenge will always be that each force and PCC must always put their own territorial area first as those are the communities to which they are duty bound to deliver the best service. That is not say collaborations cannot work currently because the Constabulary is part of a voluntary collaboration which is working well called The Major Crime Investigation Team. To improve and bring more consistency to police collaborations I believe some national direction will help and I also support the other, national, recommendations in this report.

The only recommendation applicable to the Chief Constable is the second part of recommendation two which is noted as:

- If forces haven't yet implemented an effective system to track the benefits of their collaborations, they should use the methodology created by the NPCC, the College of Policing and the Home Office.

In response to this recommendation, I can confirm that the Constabulary currently do assess the benefits of their collaborations on a quarterly basis. The quarterly regional governance boards provide scrutiny of collaboration outcomes, performance and budgets. In addition there is the Collaboration Framework document that assesses benefits and ongoing challenges of all collaboration activity; this is due to be updated in 2021.

A regional approach is being considered to ensure consistency to the ongoing review and assessment of collaborations' efficiency and effectiveness and so this recommendation will be discussed further at the next regional board in September 2020.

When the national methodology has been defined the Constabulary will look to implement this with the other forces across the collaborations.

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