

## **RESPONSE TO HMIC REPORT – POLICE INTEGRITY AND CORRUPTION**

In response to the specific findings relating to South Yorkshire Police arising from the HMIC report: Police Integrity and Corruption.

### **Chief Constable Response**

South Yorkshire Police welcomes the HMIC report 'Police Integrity and Corruption – South Yorkshire Police', which was generated following a visit to the force in June 2014. The report recognises the commitment we have towards reinforcing a culture of ethical behaviour.

The report highlights the work we have done in relation to our 'supporting reporting' programme, the 'Chiefs Pledge' and our work towards the FIRST principles in readiness for the Code of Ethics.

HMIC found that SYP's 'leaders' were leading by example throughout the organisation and mention the improved processes for gifts and gratuities, business interests and a positive programme of proactive work. They note that there is a need to develop more rigorous auditing registers that PSD have already actioned.

It is clear we have structures in place that provide Governance to our Integrity programme and that our networks offer effective support to those who report wrongdoing.

It is reassuring to know that our proportion of total workforce in the Professional Standards Department meets the national average and I am pleased to say that the force performs very well at rooting out corrupt officers.

Given the significant challenges currently faced by South Yorkshire Police, I need to ensure the force retains its capability to tackle corruption. Recently, I have been able to increase the staffing in the Professional Standards Department to meet an increase in demand. These additional staff members will allow us to increase the number of officers randomly drug tested to previous levels, a point raised during the inspection.

While South Yorkshire Police is pleased that the HMIC has recognised the significant advances made by force in the area of Police Integrity, the organisation is aware of the significant challenges we currently face in terms of public trust and confidence.

### **South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Response**

I welcome the positive findings of the Police Integrity and Corruption report which reflects well on the policies, procedures and culture found with the force.

I support the Chief Constable in being able to increase the staffing in the Professional Standards Department to address the frequency of the number of officers randomly drug tested.

I also acknowledge that the force has structures in place that provide governance to their Integrity programme. This will be further enhanced by the launch of my Independent Ethics Panel which with the full support of the Chief Constable, will provide independent and effective challenge and assurance about the integrity, standards and ethics of decision-making in policing. Members of the



Panel all reside in South Yorkshire and have a wide range of skills and experience which they will use to help improve transparency, accountability and trust in South Yorkshire Police.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alan Billings'.

Dr Alan Billings  
Police and Crime Commissioner

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