



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
for Leicestershire

Your voice in Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland

RT Hon Theresa May MP, Home Secretary

10 March 2015

Dear Home Secretary

Re: HMIC: The welfare of vulnerable people in police custody

I have read with interest the report issued by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary entitled – *The welfare of vulnerable people in police custody*.

All forces have a vital role to play in supporting vulnerable people and ensuring they are given the appropriate support. As Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland I too have a role to play in protecting the most vulnerable in our communities, as outlined in my Police and Crime Plan.

The HMIC report recognises the positive work being delivered by the Triage Car Scheme which was launched in Leicestershire in December 2012 to ensure that vulnerable people, who officers come into contact with, are taken to a suitable place of safety instead of being detained under the Mental Health Act. This scheme has seen the number of people with mental ill health taken into police custody reduce by 66% over the last two years.

I have also personally demonstrated my commitment to reducing the stigma around mental health by signing the Time to Change Pledge alongside chief officers.

I note the national recommendations made and will continue to support the Force as it works alongside other agencies to improve provisions for vulnerable people.

Yours sincerely;

Sir Clive Loader KCB OBE
Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire

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