



**Anthony Stansfeld**  
Police & Crime Commissioner  
for Thames Valley

Date: 2 September 2013  
Our Ref: AS/GE

Dear Home Secretary,

**THAMES VALLEY RESPONSE TO HMIC**

Please find enclosed my response to HMIC's report on '*Crime Recording in Kent*'.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Stansfeld  
Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley

Home Secretary  
2 Marsham Street  
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## **HMIC Inspection Report: 'Crime recording in Kent'**

Published 17 June 2013

### **Background**

This report was commissioned in February 2013 by the Kent PCC *'to determine whether the people of Kent have confidence in Kent Police's crime figures'*. This followed an internal review by Kent Police focusing on crime detections and performance culture. HMIC subsequently reviewed the Force's practices at every stage of the crime-recording process, from the point at which a member of the public calls the police, to the final resolution (or "disposal").

Whilst the inspection found improvement in systems and processes in comparison with previous audits in Kent, it still indicated that the force was under-recording approximately one in every ten crimes. It concluded that "appreciably more needs to be done before the people of Kent can be confident that the crime and resolution figures published by the force are as accurate as they should be".

### **PCC Response**

I have noted the contents of this report, and have discussed them with the Chief Constable to ascertain how they might impact on Thames Valley. With regards to the 'no crime' classifications', when last inspected by HMIC, TVP was the only force in the country to achieve 100% compliance. I share the Chief Constable's confidence that the processes behind this remain high.

Similarly, I am reassured that TVP operate robust scrutiny processes to ensure effective review and challenge for crime recording and policing outcome activities, such as:

- the use of cautions for high profile offences such as rape or serious assaults;
- that out-of-court disposals and Penalty Notices for Disorder are only used for appropriate offence classifications; and
- that the cannabis warning process is monitored and repeat use is consistent with ACPO policy.

There are a couple of issues that have already been identified by the Chief Constable's Management Team that involve crime recording of unwilling victims, and scheduled appointments for victims reporting crimes. I have a statutory duty to support victims and will continue to monitor performance in this area to ensure the Force has the necessary standards in place to support victims in the most appropriate way.



To view a copy of HMIC's report click here

<http://www.hmic.gov.uk/publication/crime-recording-in-kent/>