

## **Witness for the prosecution: Identifying victim and witness vulnerability in criminal case files**

PCC Anthony Stansfeld said:

“I have noted the content of Thames Valley’s inspection whose findings coincide with the release of an accompanying (national) thematic report.

Thames Valley’s inspection findings were largely positive. HMIC examined the effectiveness of police in providing accurate information of the circumstances of the case, identifying the vulnerability of victims and witnesses, and assessing and managing risks so that their needs are met effectively.

It is essential that the vulnerability of victims and witnesses are identified so that police can effectively drive this through the criminal justice system. I am therefore reassured that Thames Valley’s direction of travel – of which CPS play a key role – will continue to ensure that victims receive the best possible support throughout the criminal justice system.

I have asked the Chief Constable to provide me with a more detailed report to this particular HMIC, which I will consider in the early part of 2016”.