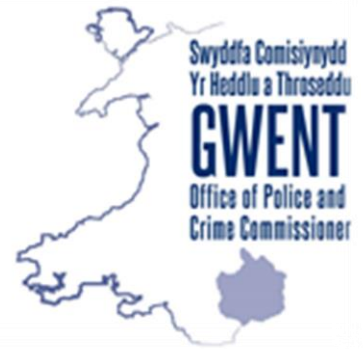


Swyddfa Comisiynydd yr Heddlu a Throseddau, Gwent  
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Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddau Gwent | Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent:  
**Jeff Cuthbert B.Sc., MCIPD**



The Rt Hon Priti Patel MP  
Home Secretary  
Home Office  
2 Marsham Street  
LONDON  
SW1P 4DF

6<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Home Secretary

**HMICFRS Inspection – PEEL spotlight report *Diverging under pressure*. An overview of 2018/19 PEEL inspections**

As required by statute, I am writing to you with my comments on Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) overview of PEEL 2018/19 inspections report.

I acknowledge the challenges presented by the current pressures on the police service and welcome the opportunities for improvement within areas of weakness. It is encouraging to see that there is great improvement in the effectiveness of the police service to protect vulnerable people and support victims, and in tackling serious and organised crime. Despite forces making good progress in this area, I am also mindful that there is still work to be done to improve further, here in Gwent as well as nationally.

I welcome the findings in relation to the Efficiency element of the inspection, especially in relation to understanding what the public wants as this is imperative in being able to address local concerns and ensure the relevant resources are made available to support these areas. In Wales, we have made great strides in our collaborative projects which not only bring savings but improve the service that the public receives, especially in relation to specialist operational areas. We are continuously working on ways to improve how we collaborate and scrutinise those projects that are already in place.

With regard to the Legitimacy element of the inspection, as police leaders, we remain committed to ensuring proportionate and appropriate use of police powers, effectively engaging with communities and partners to promote better relationships in this regard.

*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg, a phan ddaw i law, byddwn yn ateb yn y Gymraeg – ni fydd hyn yn gohirio ein hymateb. Os hoffech dderbyn gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg o hyn ymlaen, neu os ydych wedi cael eich gwahodd i gyfweiliad neu gyfarfod ac yr hoffech ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg, anfonwch e-bost at: Commissioner@gwent.pnn.police.uk. Darperir gwasanaethau cyfieithu.*

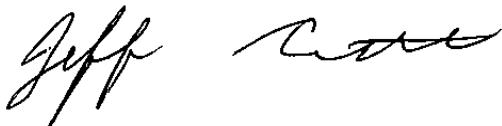
We welcome correspondence in Welsh and where received, we will reply in Welsh - this will not delay our response. If you wish to receive correspondence in Welsh hereafter or if you have been invited to an interview or meeting and you wish to use Welsh, send email to: Commissioner@gwent.pnn.police.uk. Translation services will be provided.

I was pleased to note that recruitment of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) candidates was at its highest proportion ever recorded as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. I hope that this success has continued to be built on throughout 2019/20 and remains a focus for all forces going forward. I am pleased with the work that Gwent Police undertake to promote joining the police service to those from a BAME background but have also asked them to consider how they interact with members of our communities with other protected characteristics as well as those from financially disadvantaged backgrounds.

I will continue to work with the Chief Constable in Gwent to ensure that good leadership, management and scrutiny is in place which in turn will support improvements in all areas of the service provided to the public.

Overall, the results of the inspection report are pleasing, and I look forward to seeing continued positive improvements across the policing service in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Cuthbert', written in a cursive style.

**Jeff Cuthbert B.Sc., MCIPD**  
**Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent**