

**HMIC REVIEW INTO THE USE OF STOP AND SEARCH POWERS: “STOP AND SEARCH POWERS” ARE THE POLICE USING THEM EFFECTIVELY AND FAIRLY?**

I refer to the report published by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary on 9 July 2013 regarding the proportionate and effective use of the power to stop and search. I have considered this report and have discussed the recommendations with the Chief Constable in Cheshire.

I am delighted that the figures for Cheshire show that officers are using intelligence to target their activity and fewer stops are leading to more arrests, but am attentive to the concern that has been expressed both in the press and in Government regarding appropriate use of the powers. As such I have asked the Constabulary to review the way in which officers use their stop and search powers and they have developed an action plan which I will consider regularly. I know that the Government supports the ability of police officers to stop and search suspects, but it must be applied fairly and in a way that builds community confidence in the police and that leads to real results.

I am aware that a consultation on how police use stop and search powers has been launched by the Home Secretary, and I am consulting with the people of Cheshire to ensure that my response is based on public opinion.



John Dwyer  
Police & Crime Commissioner