

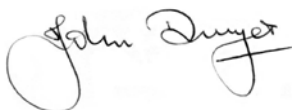
HMIC INSPECTION OF THE STRATEGIC POLICING REQUIREMENT: AN INSPECTION OF HOW POLICE FORCES IN ENGLAND AND WALES DEAL WITH THREATS OF A LARGE SCALE CYBER INCIDENT (INCLUDING CYBER ATTACK)

I refer to the report *The Strategic Policing Requirement: An Inspection of how Police Forces in England and Wales deal with Threats of a Large Scale Cyber-Incident (including cyber-attack)* published by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary on 12 June 2014. I have considered this report and have discussed it with the Constabulary.

I note that Inspectors raised concerns about a national lack of comprehensive cyber-crime strategies and they felt that preparedness to such an attack was in its earliest stages. Cheshire Constabulary identify cyber-crime as a key strategic risk and have done so now for the last two years.

Following publication of the initial report published by HMIC, and especially the concerns raised within it I have established arrangements in Cheshire whereby my Deputy reviews regularly the Constabulary response in relation to the threats contained within the SPR. I also receive an annual assessment from the Chief Constable on the Constabulary's level of compliance with the SPR. The Constabulary's Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment is also reviewed on an annual basis and I consider it as part of the annual planning process. I remain committed to ensuring that the Constabulary has arrangements in place to respond to the threats to national security and public safety identified in the SPR. As such I have committed additional resources as part of the 2014/15 budget to support the Constabulary's Hi-Tech Crime Unit to assist in tackling cyber-crime.

I look forward to receipt of the Cheshire SPR report and any recommendations that this might contain.



John Dwyer
Police & Crime Commissioner