

State of Policing: The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2022 (June 2023)

Response from: Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Hampshire and Isle of Wight

As Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) I see first-hand the competing priorities my chief constable and his force are facing. It is refreshing to see that Andy Cooke lead for HMICFRS speaking out on the challenges facing policing today: *“To a great extent, I empathise with the police; they have to contend with many factors beyond their control. They are operating with limited resources and are working within a CJS that is increasingly strained and inefficient.”* This recognition in the current policing landscape I’m sure will be welcomed by many, however, I do note the need to reassure our local residents of the hard work and commitment by our officers and staff in working to protect victims, prevent crime and respond to calls for help.

There is no avoiding the downward trend when it comes to public trust and confidence in policing, while this is not unique to Hampshire and Isle of Wight of Constabulary, we are none the less still experiencing this trend. This is a key area of focus for me and my Chief Constable, to have meaningful engagement with our residents, to identify opportunities for positive change. Contending with the wider national media attention on policing misconduct, alongside the increase of docudramas, policing has never been more in the public eye.

I have no doubt that the next 12months in policing will continue to present new challenges, but will also bring new opportunities. We have a clear direction here in HIOW, returning back to a geographical policing model, with a local policing response to crime and disorder. This community driven approach comes out of the need to show the public that policing is active and visible across all communities. As PCC I will continue to provide oversight and scrutiny of how policing is delivered across HIOW, the response to the public’s call for help and the need to instil trust and confidence back into policing.

Donna Jones
Police and Crime Commissioner

No recommendations were made.