



Promoting improvements
in policing and fire & rescue
services to make everyone safer

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Sir Thomas Winsor ws

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and
Rescue Services

Chief Constables
Chief Fire Officers
Police and Crime Commissioners
Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners
Chief Executives
Chairs of Fire & Rescue Authorities
Lead Fire and Rescue Authority Members
Locally elected Mayors

6 November 2020

Dear Colleague,

HMICFRS INSPECTION ACTIVITY 2020/21

On 16 July 2020 I wrote to you to inform you about when and how we intended to resume inspection activity. This letter provides you with an update you on how we expect to continue our work in light of the recent announcement about further restrictions and a national lockdown in England. Of course, many of you have already been under higher tier restrictions in recent weeks.

2. I do not underestimate the difficulties you face in continuing to adapt and respond to these circumstances over such a protracted period. Thank you for your vital work to keep the public safe.

3. We expect to carry out our planned inspection activity over the coming months. This plan includes our inspection of how policing and fire and rescue services have responded to the pandemic, together with other inspections of high-risk areas. It also includes preparations for the restart of our FRS and PEEL inspections in 2021.

4. As you know, we have adapted our inspection plans and methods. We are carrying out most of our inspection work remotely. Where this is not possible, we have put in place measures to ensure our inspection teams operate in a manner that is safe both on and off-site to reduce the potential risk to them and equally to you and your staff. I am grateful for the positive feedback many of you have provided about this new way of working, and for the speed and efficiency with which your organisations have adapted to and indeed facilitated virtual inspections.

5. The HMICFRS Board will continue to discuss inspection plans against the changing operational circumstances each week to ensure they remain appropriate. Please contact your respective regional HMI if you wish to discuss any inspection activity planned in your organisation for the rest of the calendar year.

6. Thank you for your continued leadership during these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Winsor'.

Sir Thomas Winsor WS

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services

Copied to: HMIs Home Office NFCC Chair NPCC Chair

DG, National Crime Agency LGA APCC

CEO, College of Policing Criminal Justice Chief Inspectors