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Michelle Skeer OBE QPM

His Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary His Majesty's Inspector of Fire & Rescue Services

Sent by email:

Chief Fire Officers
Mark Hardingham, Chair, National Fire Chiefs Council
Copied to:
Chairs of Fire Authorities (and their equivalents)

18 June 2024

Dear Chief fire officer,

Cyber security inspection of police forces and fire & rescue services

The number of cyber threats and attacks are increasing across the world. Whilst this threat is international, the United Kingdom is one of the most targeted countries. There have been a number of high profile incidents involving public organisations.

Due to the threat posed, we are proposing an inspection in relation to cyber security to be included in our inspection programme and frameworks from 2025/27. This would be for both the police and fire service. Programme and frameworks for both police and fire will be consulted on during the summer; we would encourage you to respond to this. You will receive a further letter in advance of these consultations opening. This would then be subject to approval by the Home Secretary.

Inspection leads from both the fire and police inspection teams will work together on this inspection.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the activity that is being discussed. As the situation develops, I will keep you informed.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Skeer OBE QPM

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