

“Northumbria Police takes the accurate recording of crime very seriously and it is reassuring to see that this has been recognised by the HMIC in their inspection.

The force has made significant improvements in accurately recording crimes since the last inspection carried out by HMIC in 2014, resulting in an increase from 72% to 93% compliance for the recording of all crimes.

Despite the improvements we have made we recognise there is still more work to be done and this too has been highlighted by HMIC. In keeping with the findings in this report we are already working on further improvements to our systems and processes so that we can ensure that we get it right first time. These further improvements are intended to take us to the highest levels of compliance with the national standards for crime recording and will be delivered with the same commitment and determination that HMIC have commented on in their report.

As we continue to make improvements to become more compliant with crime recording standards we are likely to see an increased level of recorded crime across the force area. As such, the communities of Northumbria should be reassured that our area remains one of the safest places to live in the country and actual incidents of household and personal crimes continue to fall (source: national survey of households). This is why our residents and the wider community feel confident in reporting crime to us and are part of the reason we continue to have the highest level of satisfaction than any other force in the country.

A spokesperson for the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner said “The Chief Constable recognises that more work has to be done and has put a programme in place to achieve positive outcomes. The Police & Crime Commissioner will ensure the Chief Constable provides regular updates, to show how the force is learning from the findings of HMIC and evaluate the action plans that are being put in place to ensure the continuation of the best possible policing for the communities we serve.