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Date: 6th November 2013

Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
2 Marsham Street
London
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Dear Home Secretary,

As required within Section 55(5) of the Police Act 1996, I am required to comment on reports published by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC).

I write in respect to the HMIC review into allegations and intelligence material concerning Jimmy Savile between 1964 and 2012 entitled "*Mistakes were made*".

Whilst the focus of Operation Yewtree did not involve any cases within Dyfed-Powys, I note that the HMIC report details five recommendations that will assist all forces.

I particularly support the recommendation made to establish ways to encourage the reporting of sexual crimes, and to create a culture and operating practices that do not contain perverse incentives to the detriment of victims and the public. It is for this precise reason that I have chosen not to set any targets within my Police and Crime Plan. I also continue to promote this approach throughout the policing service.

I also strongly support a system of mandatory reporting to be more widely examined for those who in the course of their professional duties become aware of information or evidence, that a child is or has been the victim of abuse, should be under a legal obligation to notify police of their concerns. We surely cannot solely rely on professional guidelines to ensure the most vulnerable in society are protected.

The Police service cannot tackle this issue alone. A strong partnership response is required to ensure that all available information is shared and acted upon appropriately. Police and Crime Commissioners have an important role to play here and I intend on highlighting the need that all agencies that have a role to play in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults need to ensure that their policies are fit for purpose and put fully into practice.

I look forward to receiving the planned HMIC reports from its programme of work on the police response to child abuse and child protection.

A copy of this response is published on my [website](#).



Christopher Salmon

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Cc: Drusilla Sharpling
HM Inspector of Constabulary
Wales and Western Region