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Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner,
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**COMISIYNYDD
HEDDLU A THROSEDDU
DYFED-POWYS
POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

29 January 2015

Dear Home Secretary,

As required within Section 55(5) of the Police Act 1996, I write in response to the inspection undertaken by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, "*Crime data integrity*".

The report clearly highlights that there are national failings in police crime recording. I recognised this problem some time ago and have been working with the Chief Constable to improve crime recording. To help achieve this, I have scrapped targets for police officers and improved scrutiny on how the force operates. This includes Dyfed-Powys crime figures being scrutinised and discussed in detail at monthly accountability board meetings. The Force has also established a Data Quality Assurance Board. I have made it clear to the Chief Constable that I am prepared to see a rise in recorded crime, if that gives a better reflection of reality. The public have a right to expect accurate recording and officers must feel confident to report it honestly.

I am reassured that there was no evidence of pressure to under-record or mis-record crime in Dyfed Powys. I am also pleased to see that out-of-court disposals are being used appropriately in Dyfed-Powys. The observations on community remedy are helpful, particularly in relation to victims' input. We will look closely at how we can improve these disposals in the coming months.

I will continue to work with the Chief Constable to ensure that the recommendations contained within the report are implemented locally and scrutinised through the Policing Accountability Board.

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

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Salmon
Police and Crime Commissioner

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

