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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

03 March 2016

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, "Police effectiveness 2015 – Dyfed-Powys Police".

I do not recognise the judgement provided by HMIC in this report. Dyfed-Powys has the lowest crime rate in England and Wales. It has one of the highest charge rates. Crime and antisocial behaviour have fallen further and faster here than elsewhere in Wales since 2012. HMIC recognise that "Dyfed-Powys Police is good at preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and keeping people safe". HMIC defines "an effective force as one that reduces crime and keeps people safe".

Yet HMIC judge that overall Dyfed Powys Police "require improvement at keeping people safe and reducing crime".

I am very willing to recognise the need for improvement and have made clear my expectations to the Chief Constable. I do not, however, recognise this judgement, which is arbitrary, process-orientated and disproportionate to the evidence provided. I am confident that the force is effective at keeping people safe and reducing crime. The outcomes certainly suggest so.

HMIC inspect police forces. Police and crime commissioners hold those forces to account. I will continue to work with the Chief Constable to ensure that those recommendations we deem appropriate are implemented and scrutinised through our monthly Policing Accountability Boards.

A copy of this response is published on my website.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Salmon
Police and Crime Commissioner

Cc: HMI Wendy Williams
HM Inspector of Constabulary, Wales and Western Region