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Claire Waxman OBE
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By email only

6th October 2026

Dear Claire Waxman OBE,

As Minister for Policing and Crime, I am responding to the publication of your report, *Forgotten Victims: Barriers to Justice following a road traffic collision*. Thank you for undertaking this important work and for ensuring that the experiences of bereaved families and those seriously injured in road traffic collisions are heard.

Your report highlights the profound and lasting impact of fatal and serious road traffic collisions and raises important issues regarding the consistency and timeliness of investigations, communication with victims and access to support services. The Government is clear that victims should receive a professional, compassionate and consistent service.

The recommendations set out in your report span a range of complex operational matters across policing, victim support, training and service delivery. A significant programme of activity is already under way across Government and with operational partners to strengthen roads policing and investigative practice.

This includes the Department for Transport's Roads Policing Innovation Programme which is funding the National Roads Policing Coordination Centre (the Centre), working closely with the National Police Chiefs Council. The Centre was established in 2026 and is being developed in close collaboration with the Home Office as well as other key partners. The Centre will improve the coordination of roads policing across the country, strengthen consistency between regions and forces, and support more effective working across force boundaries. A number of recommendations arising from HMICFRS' 2020 report, *Roads Policing: Not Optional,* are being addressed through the Centre.

This work sits alongside the national standards, training and operational guidance that already supports roads policing. The College of Policing's Authorised Professional Practice provides a national framework for roads policing and police pursuits, while regulations prescribing police driver training requirements support greater consistency across forces.

The wider programme of police reform provides a further opportunity to consider how roads policing and other specialist capabilities should be supported in future. My officials are working closely with policing and government partners as this work develops, and we will continue to consider carefully the capabilities and specialisms that should be supported through the future model.

Turning to your recommendation that His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary should undertake a thematic inspection of roads policing, I am responding on behalf

of government. I fully support the principle of this recommendation and recognise the importance of robust oversight, continuous improvement and independent scrutiny in the investigation of fatal and serious road traffic collisions. The programme of work described above, together with the recommendations in your report for the National Police Chiefs' Council and College of Policing, have the potential to deliver significant changes to national standards, training, operational capability and support for bereaved and seriously injured victims. As these changes are still being developed and implemented, I believe an inspection undertaken now could provide less insight and value than one undertaken once these reforms have had sufficient opportunity to become established and their impact can be meaningfully assessed.

For that reason, the Government is not proposing to commission a further thematic inspection at this stage. This is not a rejection of the recommendation. Rather, I consider that there is greater value in reviewing the position once the current programme of reforms has progressed further. At that point, we will consider the appropriate timing for an inspection, or whether other suitable mechanisms could provide effective independent evaluation of progress. My officials will keep you informed as this work develops.

Many of the remaining recommendations in your report concern operational responsibilities held by policing. I will therefore invite the National Police Chiefs' Council and the College of Policing to respond directly to those recommendations that fall within their respective responsibilities and would welcome continued engagement between your office and policing partners as this work is taken forward.

The Home Office continues to work closely with the Department for Transport, the National Roads Policing Coordination Centre and policing partners to support a coordinated, system-wide approach to roads policing and road safety. This includes work to strengthen capability, improve operational consistency, support victims and ensure that policing remains equipped to meet future challenges.

Very best wishes,



Sarah Jones MP
Minister of State for Policing and Crime