

***‘Joint targeted area inspection of the multi-agency response to serious youth violence in Somerset’ published by HMICFRS on 18 July 2024
Avon & Somerset PCC response dated 12 September 2024***

Serious youth violence is one of the priorities in my Police and Crime Plan. I recognise that to help respond to and prevent this type of crime requires responses from many agencies and, to be really successful, these different agencies need to work in a joined-up way. Therefore I value this inspection and welcome the findings as it highlights two ‘areas for priority action’ and ten additional points of ‘what needs to improve’.

The response to this inspection is led by the Somerset Safeguarding Children's Partnership but with the engagement and contribution of all partner agencies including Avon and Somerset Police. A joint action plan is being developed in response to the findings and this must be submitted by 25 October 2024. Together, with my office, we have been supporting agencies with this and will continue that support through the work of the Violence Reduction Partnerships.

It should be noted that I have a legal duty to respond to the publication of the findings within eight weeks, so the action plan is still being developed at the time of writing. I oversee the Constabulary’s response to all inspections as part of my ongoing scrutiny.

This response is published on the OPCC website <https://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/reports-publications/hmicfrs-reports/>