

21 September 2023

Dear HMICFRS

I acknowledge that the His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) team published on the 30 March 2023, Values and culture in fire and rescue services inspection report.

Within the report there was a specific recommendation regarding Chief Constables:

Recommendation 10

By 1 September 2023, chief constables should make sure they are appropriately using their Common Law Police Disclosure powers in circumstances involving employees of fire and rescue services.

The text within the report linked to the above recommendation was:

'Where there is a public protection risk and a pressing social need to share information, Common Law Police Disclosure gives police forces in England (and Wales) a power to pass information to the employer or regulatory body. However, it was beyond the scope of this report to examine the extent to which police forces are currently using this power to pass information to fire and rescue services about their staff. Chief constables should make sure they are appropriately using this power in circumstances involving employees of fire and rescue services.'

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has received assurance that Bedfordshire Police already meets the recommendation as currently set out through DBS and Common Law Police Disclosure (CLPD) processes and existing arrangements.

There is work ongoing and this is being managed through governance board meetings.

Yours Sincerely

Festus Akinbusoye
Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire

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