

Safeguarding our biometric future

Statement by Commissioner on outgoing and incoming HM Chief Inspector(s) of Constabulary in Scotland

As my first year in office draws to a close, I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding contributions made to policing in Scotland by the outgoing HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland, Gill Imery QPM, who will shortly vacate office.

Following an exceptional career in policing, Gill joined HMICS as Assistant Inspector of Constabulary in 2016 before becoming HM Chief Inspector in 2018. During those 6 years, her contributions to improving policing in Scotland have in my view been both exceptional and outstanding.

One of many examples was her work on the provision of forensic medical services for victims of rape and sexual crime. In turn, this led to the establishment of the Chief Medical Officer's Taskforce, an £11.7 million investment by Scottish Government, and ultimately legislative change through the Forensic Medical Services (Victims of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021 which takes effect on 01 April 2022.

I have known Gill professionally for many years and she will be a tough act to follow.

Gill is succeeded as HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland by Craig Naylor, whom I have also known for many years and have had the privilege of working with previously. Craig joins HMICS from his previous position as Deputy Director of Investigations with the UK National Crime Agency (NCA). He was previously Deputy Chief Constable of Lincolnshire Police having moved south following a successful policing career in Scotland.

In closing, I wish Gill every success in whatever she turns to next, and I welcome the appointment of Craig as her successor and wish him every success in his new role.

Brian Plastow

Dr Brian Plastow.

31 March 2022