

Rt Hon Suella Braverman MP
Home Secretary
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Your ref: n/a
Our ref: SH
Date: 23 May 2023
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Dear Home Secretary

I write in response to the HMICFRS inspection report: **Values and culture in fire and rescue services** (Police Recommendation only).

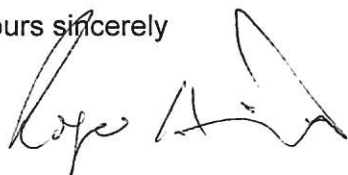
I acknowledge that recommendation 10 in this report is for Chief Constables. The recommendation states that *By 1 September 2023, chief constables should make sure they are appropriately using their Common Law Police Disclosure powers in circumstances involving employees of fire and rescue services.*

The Chief Constable has provided a detailed response to me regarding the process which the force's Disclosure Team follows. I am assured that this recommendation is proposed for closure by the force, to be self-certified by the Deputy Chief Constable at the May Performance Board, as the force is fully compliant with the recommendation.

This response relates specifically to the recommendation for Chief Constables, as is required. I would also like to take the opportunity to assure you that I have read and considered the report in full, including all recommendations for Fire and Rescue services, and have discussed these with the Chief Fire Officer.

I will continue to maintain close scrutiny of the work of Essex Police and Essex Fire and Rescue Service in this regard, and to hold the Chief Constable and chief Fire Officer to account.

Yours sincerely



Roger Hirst
Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex
c.c. Ben-Julian Harrington, Chief Constable, Essex Police
Rick Hylton, Chief Fire Officer