

To: HMICFRS

Date: 21 February 2026 at 06:32

Dear Sir or Madam

Re: Public Interest Notice - Structural Relationship Between HMICFRS and Operation Talla

I write in the public interest and for the purpose of formal record.

This correspondence is not a complaint, nor a request for action. It is a notification intended to ensure accuracy of the constitutional and factual record concerning matters of public administration and institutional structure.

It is presently evidenced from primary-source material, including official publications and formally issued programme documentation, that His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) maintained operational linkage with Operation Talla during the COVID-19 policing period.

In particular, HMICFRS's own published material states:

“Through our strong links with Op Talla we made sure that our inspection assessed immediate changes while Op Talla focused on the longer term.”

Separately, contemporaneous official programme documentation records HMICFRS participation within the Operation Talla framework and recognises contributions made within that operational environment.

Taken together, these materials establish, as a matter of documentary record, that:

- HMICFRS maintained identified links with Operation Talla;
- inspection activity was conducted in coordination with that operational structure;
- and HMICFRS personnel were recognised within the Operation Talla framework itself.

The purpose of placing this matter formally on record is to ensure constitutional clarity in respect of institutional roles, particularly where questions may arise concerning:

- structural independence,

- functional separation,
- and the distinction between operational participation and external oversight.

For the avoidance of doubt, this notice does not assert wrongdoing, impropriety, or misconduct. It records only what is actually evidenced within official documentation and does so in order to preserve an accurate and transparent public record.

No response is required.

Should HMICFRS nevertheless wish to provide clarification, contextual information, or correction of any factual matter, such material will be carefully recorded and appended to the existing evidential archive so that the public record remains complete and precise.

This correspondence is sent in good faith and in furtherance of the constitutional principle that transparency strengthens public confidence in institutions exercising statutory authority.

Yours faithfully

Ian Clayton

Lead Investigator

Ethical Approach UK