

# Crime Data Integrity (CDI)

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## CDI – History

- Variation in police recorded crime and Crime Survey of England and Wales
- Public Administration Select Committee/Office of National Statistics
- Home Sec. – ‘To what extent can we rely on police recorded crime figures’ ?
- Wrongdoing reporting
- Concern regarding ‘unintended consequences’ of performance regime
- HMICFRS audit/inspection

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## CDI – What does it mean?

- Recording crime ethically
- Complying with NCRS/HOCR - *explicit in Code of Ethics.*
- Removing barriers to recording crime – *workload/performance pressure ?*
- HMICFRS – regular inspection and audit of compliance

*'It is always better to know what might have happened, rather than not know what definitely did'.*

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## Benefits of accurate crime recording ?

- Victim focus – *'voice of victims'*
- Understand demand – locally and nationally
- Inform problem solving/investigation
- Evidence of ethical achievement – *stamp of approval*
- Openness/transparency – public awareness

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## What does good CDI look like ?

- Processes – ensure accurate and timely recording of crime, measure compliance and promote learning.
- Knowledge/Understanding – NCRS/HOCR, recording systems (Niche) and specific crimes.
- Leadership/Culture - promotes accurate and ethical crime recording, and encourages learning/improvement.

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## How are we doing ?

HMICFRS Audit/Inspection 2017 and 2019

	2017		
Compliance overall	80.4%		
Crimes of violence	69.2%		
Rape/Sexual offences	90.2%		
All other crime	86.9%		

**Overall grading '*Inadequate*'**

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## How are we doing ?

### HMICFRS Audit/Inspection 2017 and 2019

	2017	2019	
Compliance overall	80.4%	87.9%	
Crimes of violence	69.2%	79.4%	
Rape/Sexual offences	90.2%	95.3%	
All other crime	86.9%	92.9%	

**Overall grading 'Inadequate'**

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## How are we doing ?

### HMICFRS Audit/Inspection 2017 and 2019

	2017	2019	Av. 34 forces 2019
Compliance overall	80.4%	87.9%	89.3%
Crimes of violence	69.2%	79.4%	87.5%
Rape/Sexual offences	90.2%	95.3%	93.3%
All other crime	86.9%	92.9%	

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## Positive Findings

- No evidence of a lack of integrity
- 'A commitment to ethical crime recording that is victim-focused and free from performance pressures of any kind'
- Chief officers encourage officers and staff to challenge activities or behaviours that are unethical, unacceptable or unprofessional in respect of the recording of reported crime.
- The force considered safeguarding requirements in most/all of the unrecorded cases

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## Improvements required

- Processes – gaps around domestic incidents, adult/child protection
- Knowledge - requirement to record, 'believing' victims, multiple crimes, third party disclosures, mental health, reports of rape (N100) (NCRS/HOCR)
- Knowledge of specific crimes (violence, malicious communications, harassment, stalking, public order offences)
- Knowledge – correct use and understanding of Niche
- Leadership/Culture – more effort to improve above

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## Future of CDI

State of Policing – The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2018

*'The current CDI programme is scheduled to finish in spring 2020. It will then become part of the integrated PEEL assessment process, informing other areas such as investigating crime, protecting the vulnerable and managing demand'. Sir Tom Winsor (Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary)*

**HMICFRS oversight will continue !**

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## National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) and Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime (HOCR)

- Benchmark/standard for recording
- Promote ethical crime recording
- Take a victim oriented approach to crime recording
- Accuracy and consistency in crime records within/between police forces
- Don't dictate what should be investigated or how !

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## General

- A victim focused approach is the standard - presumption that the victim should be believed.
- General requirement to record as soon as practicable or in any event within 24 hours – reasons for delay to be recorded.
- Recording what is reported – not necessarily what occurred !

*'It is always better to know what might have happened, rather than not know what definitely did'.*

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## Myths !

- Victim does not support/want an investigation
- Offender under 10 years old
- Offender lacks mental capacity for '*mens rea*'
- Sexual activity between consenting U16 teenagers
- Lawful/reasonable chastisement of a child
- Sexting (IIOC) by consent between young people under 18

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