

**BEV HUGHES**  
**DEPUTY MAYOR**  
**OF GREATER**  
**MANCHESTER**

Rt Hon Priti Patel,  
Secretary of State for the Home Department  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Home Secretary

**SUBJECT: Criminal Justice Joint Inspection – Neurodiversity in the Criminal Justice System – A review of evidence.**

I write in response to the recent Criminal Justice Joint Inspection into Neurodiversity in the Criminal Justice System.

I support fully the recommendations made within the report, particularly the overarching requirement for a co-ordinated cross-government approach to improving outcomes for neurodivergent people within the criminal justice system. This should include guidance and protocols to enable criminal justice agencies to make appropriate adjustments to meet the needs of those with neurodivergent conditions.

The introduction of a common screening tool for universal use within the criminal justice system, supported by an information sharing protocol would be of great benefit and is to be supported.

I note that the report recommends that the Ministry of Justice provide an action plan to address these recommendations within three months, followed by updates on progress at six and 12 months. I look forward to reviewing that plan and using that to assist with local action.

I have spoken with senior leaders at Greater Manchester Police and can confirm that the report was presented and discussed at senior internal board meetings. The good practice examples were noted and further work will be undertaken to explore changes and adjustments that could be implemented to support neurodivergent people in the criminal justice system. This work will be done in consultation with GMP's Neurodiversity Staff Network.

GMCA, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester, M1 6EU

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I will ensure that a copy of the report is shared with colleagues from the Greater Manchester Justice and Rehabilitation Executive and the Health and Justice Board for review and consideration.

Yours sincerely



**Rt. Hon Baroness Beverley Hughes**  
**Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester**  
**Policing, Crime and Criminal Justice**

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