

Andy Cooke QPM DL

His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary
His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire &
Rescue Services

Sent by email:

Professor Fraser Sampson
Biometrics and Surveillance Camera Commissioner

26 October 2023

Dear Fraser,

**Use of police powers to retain the biometrics of people
arrested for serious offences**

Thank you for taking the time to write to me on the above issue.

I will bring your well-founded concerns to the attention of Chief Constable Sarah Crew, who is the National Police Chief Council (NPCC) lead for rape and serious sexual offences. I will be asking Chief Constable Crew for her support in promoting an improved and more consistent use of the s.63G power across the police service.

I will also ensure that this concern is communicated to our senior colleagues at the College of Policing and is conveyed in our ongoing discussions with our partners collaborating with us as we develop our Bluestone Soteria inspection programme. I am hopeful that this work will bring about more positive outcomes for victims of rape and serious sexual offences.

We are constantly reviewing our wider inspection framework to better understand how well police forces prevent and detect crime. As we continue to develop our methodology, we will consider how we can incorporate the points raised in your letter to challenge the police service to make more effective use of the s.63G power.

Yours sincerely,



Andy Cooke QPM DL

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