

Independent review into police management of registered sex offenders

Today the Home Secretary Priti Patel has appointed Mick Creedon, Former Chief Constable of Derbyshire Constabulary, to undertake the independent review which was a promise set out in the [Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy \(2021\)](#).

Mr Creedon has over 37 years' experience in policing, counter-terrorism and security, and will be taking up the post imminently.

The review will consider the consistency of the management of registered sex offenders across England and Wales, and whether the current capabilities to manage them are fit for purpose. It will specifically look at how consistently the police use their capabilities to manage the risk posed by registered sex offenders and whether the regime protecting the public from them could be strengthened further.

The review, which is independent of government, will consider evidence in relation to factors including (but not limited to):

- police resourcing
- consistency of offender management
- information-sharing
- management tools and orders
- risk assessment, management, and prioritisation
- training

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

"The UK has some of the toughest powers in the world to deal with sex offenders and we are committed to ensuring that the system is as robust as it can be.

"Mick brings a wealth of policing and criminal justice expertise to this role and I am delighted he has agreed to chair the review."

On taking on this role as the independent reviewer, Mick Creedon said:

"I'm really pleased to be offered the opportunity to lead this review on behalf of the Home Secretary. The question of how the police best manage offenders released from custody but rightly subject to restrictions is a complicated one. The public deserve protection, and at the same time the demands on the police service continue to grow. I intend to gather as many views as possible, to work with those leading and involved in this work, and will seek to provide a fully independent review and realistic proposals to ensure the longstanding MAPPA arrangements provide the best protection for the public, and the effective monitoring and management of offenders living in the community."

The review will be undertaken in line with the [Tackling Child Sexual Abuse Strategy \(2021\)](#) which aims to prevent, tackle and respond to all forms of child sexual abuse, while also building on the findings of the government's end-to-end review into the criminal justice response to rape (2021). It will commence imminently and will aim to report back to the Home Secretary, Safeguarding Minister and Crime and Policing Minister by the end of this year.

[Pharmaceutical company fined for manufacturing defective medicine](#)

Today, Syri Ltd, a pharmaceutical manufacturer based in Ruislip, Hillingdon, London has been fined £51,000 and ordered to pay costs of £104,898 by Aylesbury Crown Court. Following an investigation by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and a prosecution brought by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), the company was convicted of supplying a medicinal product which was not of the nature or quality specified in a prescription. The investigation was prompted by a child suffering multiple seizures and their admission to hospital.

The child was prescribed magnesium glycerophosphate to help prevent seizures. However, the medicine made by the company contained just 12% of the strength specified in the prescription, which resulted in it failing to work effectively.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) was alerted to the issue following a report from Milton Keynes University Hospital. MHRA inspectors visited the site and found the methods used to manufacture the medicine and the checks in place to ensure appropriate standards were not met at the time the medicine was supplied. This resulted in the medicine being manufactured with insufficient levels of the active ingredient, making it ineffective and causing the child to become seriously ill.

The medicine was made to a specific prescription (known as a special) for the child. The company has improved their quality assurance procedures to prevent a recurrence.

Dr Alison Cave, MHRA Chief Safety Officer, said:

“Pharmaceutical companies such as Syri Ltd have a legal obligation to ensure they produce and supply medicines that work and are manufactured to the required standards. The patient has recovered, but the consequences could have been much more serious if it hadn't been for the swift action of hospital staff.

“Patient safety is our top priority. The Agency will not hesitate to take

robust enforcement action when serious failings that put patients at risk are identified.”

Laura Walters, Special Crown Prosecutor of the Crown Prosecution Service said:

“Syri Limited, as with all pharmaceutical providers, have a vital responsibility to produce medicines accurately and safely, in the form specified in a prescription. Fortunately, the mistake they made was not fatal in this case. This was not an isolated mistake although our prosecution was only concerned with this one serious incident.

“These types of prosecutions are thankfully rare, but this conviction and sentence should serve as a reminder for all pharmaceutical companies of the need for absolute care in providing essential medications to the public.”

Anyone who suspects that they, or a member of their family, may have experienced a side effect from a medicine can report it to the MHRA’s Yellow Card scheme, which collects and monitors information on suspected safety concerns involving healthcare products.

Notes to Editor

- The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency is responsible for regulating all medicines and medical devices in the UK. All work is underpinned by robust and fact-based judgements to ensure that the benefits justify any risks.
- The MHRA is an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care.

[Changes to the trade remedies regime](#)

News story

The way the TRA reviews measures inherited from the EU system is set to change, following new legislation which comes into force on Wednesday 2 March 2022.



From Wednesday 2 March, there will be changes to the way the [Trade Remedies Authority](#) assesses existing trade remedy measures that the UK transitioned from the European Union (EU) when it left the EU.

The Government has introduced new ‘call-in’ powers to allow the Secretary of State for International Trade to ‘call in’ transition reviews which the TRA is carrying out into transitioned measures. This gives the Secretary of State increased powers to decide how the review should be carried out. This power only applies to reviews which are in the process of being carried out by the TRA and also covers any reconsiderations that the TRA may be undertaking following its reviews of the transitioned measures. Not all transition reviews will be called in and we anticipate that the powers will in practice be used rarely.

What will change and when

The changes will come into force on Wednesday 2 March 2022. This will mean that transition reviews which the TRA is carrying out can be ‘called in’ by the Secretary of State for International Trade. After calling a case in, the Secretary of State is responsible for all decisions relating to that review or reconsideration. This ensures the Secretary of State can have greater oversight of and involvement and the ability to decide on appropriate measures that may be deemed to be in the public interest.

When a review or reconsideration is called in, the Secretary of State will publish a notice to announce this. The TRA will also publish a notice on its [public file](#) to inform participants.

Trade remedies framework review

In parallel to the introduction of the call-in power, the Department for International Trade is conducting a review of the UK’s trade remedies framework to ensure that it reflects the UK’s needs in a post-COVID world. The review is being carried on in close collaboration with the TRA, drawing on its expert advice.

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Recruitment Vacancy in the VMD Supply Team

News story

Details of a vacancy for a Higher Scientific Officer in our Supply Team.



This exciting and interesting job puts you at the heart of the VMD's work in facilitating the availability of medicines to veterinary surgeons and in part delivery of the VMD's transparency agenda.

You will be part of a team with diverse activities in a target driven environment where quality of service is essential.

Job Title

Higher Scientific Officer in the Supply Team

Grade

HS0

Salary & Pension

£32,557 – £35,888 per annum with Pension Scheme

Annual Leave entitlement

Commencing at 25 days

Role

This role requires an individual with the ability to problem solve, to prioritise and organise themselves and to support their team. It is an ever-

changing environment and it is essential that the job holder can think on their feet and rise to challenges quickly and effectively.

We prefer applicants to have a scientific degree in a relevant scientific discipline, such as Biology, Pharmaceutical Science or equivalent scientific experience.

How to apply

You must make your application through [Civil Service Jobs](#) where you will find a full job description including salary details.

Closing Date

29 March 2022

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[Fast track entry for professional users available at all court and tribunal sites](#)

News story

The professional users access scheme is now available across all our sites in England and Wales, allowing fast track entry for members holding an ID card.



For legal professional court users who routinely enter courts and tribunals, we offer fast track entry through the popular [Professional Users Access Scheme \(PUAS\)](#).

The membership scheme, first piloted in 2018, allows quicker access through

security in our buildings for registered members.

How does the scheme work?

The scheme allows members to enter our buildings with a registered ID card, without needing a routine security search on each visit.

The scheme helps reduce delays on entry, with separate fast-access lanes for members available during the busiest times of the day. The scheme now has nearly 9,000 active users.

The PUAS has been introduced in sites that require an enhanced level of security clearance and we're working with legal organisations to complete the required processes.

Who runs the scheme?

Smart Citizen run the scheme and have maintained 100 per cent service availability. They make sure that any enquiries raised are answered or resolved within 24 hours.

We also work closely with professional organisations – including the Bar Council, Law Society, Criminal Law Solicitors Association and London Criminal Court Solicitors Association – whose members or staff participate in the scheme. They help us understand the needs of the legal profession and provide joint communications about membership requirements.

The scheme continues to run effectively, and we intend to extend the contract with Smart Citizen for the future.

[Find out more about the scheme and how to register.](#)

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