

# THE SPEIRS DIRECTIVE

The detonator which wrecked  
the integrity of British Policing

# THE HIDDEN SYSTEM

## *How the Spears Directive Exposed a UK-Wide Policing Suppression Practice*

**A Forensic Narrative**

**By Ian Clayton**

**Date: 21 November 2025**

### **1. Introduction: When a Secret Becomes a Document**

For nearly two years, the policing establishment across the United Kingdom successfully concealed a quiet but coordinated operational practice:

the systematic suppression of vaccine-related crime reports from the public.

- No policy announced it.
- No published guidance endorsed it.
- No statutory framework permitted it.

- No parliamentary committee approved it.

It existed only in:

- internal conversations,
- email chains,
- off-record briefings,
- command “understandings”, and
- unminuted operational assumptions.

This covert practice was never meant to surface.

But in Scotland, something happened that no one in policing ever anticipated:

*It was accidentally written down.*

A single document, the now-infamous **Speirs Directive**, transformed what had been a deniable national practice into recorded, traceable, FOI-disclosable evidence.

It exposed everything the UK policing establishment had worked so hard to contain.

This narrative explains what happened, why it matters and how this one mistake ruptured the integrity of policing across the United Kingdom.

## **2. The Covert National Practice: “Guidance to Not Record”**

The recently disclosed NPCC materials reveal a reality that is now impossible to deny.

Across the UK, senior policing units were:

- discouraging the recording of vaccine-related complaints,
- pre-drafting ‘no crime’ template outcomes,
- categorising complainants as ‘anti-vax conspiracists’,
- monitoring the “success” of non-recording, and
- coordinating the suppression of allegations that should, in law, have been investigated.

One internal NPCC email, dated 14 February 2022, reveals the culture bluntly:

***“the guidance to not record has been a success as only one additional report has been created.”***

The phrase “*guidance to not record*” encapsulates the hidden system:

- It was guidance, but not official.
- It shaped behaviour, but had no basis in law.
- It was circulated, but never documented formally.
- It influenced multiple forces, but left no authorised trail.
- It was national in effect, but not national in publication.

This was the architecture of suppression:

an off-the-books national practice, never intended to enter the public sphere.

### **3. Police Scotland's Mistake: Turning a Secret into a Directive**

Whilst English and Welsh forces kept the suppression informal, buried in emails, meetings and culture, Police Scotland did something unprecedented:

They put the suppression into writing.

On 25 January 2022, the then Assistant Chief Constable Alan Speirs issued a directive instructing officers not to accept or record vaccine-related complaints from the public.

But the real significance of the Directive lies in how it justified itself:

- It cited NPCC advice.
- It referenced Gold Command direction.
- It presented the instruction as UK-wide operational alignment.

There was only one problem.

None of that was true.

NPCC has now admitted it cannot corroborate any such advice.

- There was no national policy.
- There was no lawful instruction.
- There was no authorised guidance.

Police Scotland had inadvertently converted a hidden national practice into a formal written directive, complete with a date, chain of command and falsely attributed authority.

This was the moment the secret became visible.

#### **4. The FOI Release: The Moment the Hidden System Collapsed**

The Directive should never have seen daylight.

- It was internal.

- It was undisclosed.
- It was meant to remain buried.

Even Speirs himself, in his 18 November 2025 email, emphasised:

***“This statement was published on the internal Police Scotland intranet which is accessible to all police officers and members of police staff.”***

***“The purpose of the statement was to provide guidance...”***

- Not public.
- Not for oversight.
- Not for external scrutiny.

But the document existed inside Police Scotland's records system.

And once it existed, it became disclosable.

A single FOI release in March 2025 detonated the wall of secrecy.

The Directive entered the public domain, unredacted.

The hidden system was exposed.

Suddenly, everything that had been informal, deniable and undiscoverable became undeniable.

## **5. The Evidence Chain Forms: A National Pattern Emerges**

The exposure of the Directive triggered a forensic chain reaction.

Investigation now shows:

**Police Scotland:**

- Formalised suppression in the Directive.
- Falsely cited NPCC authority.
- Concealed it from the Scottish Police Authority.

- Concealed it from the Scottish and UK Covid Inquiries.
- Allowed officers to refuse public crime reporting.

### **NPCC / NPoCC:**

- Coordinated suppression internally.
- Expressed satisfaction about non-recording outcomes.
- Never issued lawful guidance.
- Cannot corroborate the Directive.
- Engaged in narrative framing of complainants.

### **Metropolitan Police:**

- Predetermined “*no crime*” outcomes for CRN 6029679/21.
- Prepared communications before evidence review.
- Failed in CPIA duties to investigate, retain, disclose.
- Suppressed vast quantities of submitted evidence.

### **Durham Constabulary:**

- Rejected vaccine-related allegations without due assessment.
- Failed to investigate properly.
- Relied on assumptions now shown to be baseless.

Across these jurisdictions, the outcomes were identical:

- Public reporting blocked.
- Crime refused.
- Evidence ignored.
- Complaints dismissed.
- Serious allegations erased.
- Victims silenced.

This is more than coincidence.

It is more than similarity.

It is more than alignment.

It is pattern.

It is practice.

It is national in scope and effect.

## **6. Why the Speirs Directive Is Now the Most Damaging Document in UK Policing**

The Directive matters because it is the one artefact that links every part of the hidden system together.

It proves that:

- The suppression was operational, not accidental.
- Officers were instructed not to act.
- The public were systematically denied access to justice.
- Senior leaders invented false justifications for unlawful conduct.
- The suppression originated from informal NPCC culture - not legal authority.
- The UK Covid Inquiry and Scottish Covid Inquiry were misled by omission.

- The hidden system existed across multiple UK police forces.

## **The Speirs Directive is the smoking gun.**

- It is the moment the covert became explicit.
- The moment the informal became documented.
- The moment the national became traceable.
- The moment the truth escaped.

## **7. A Catastrophic Wound to Policing Integrity**

With the disclosure of the Speirs Directive and the NPCC email trail now in the open, three facts are unavoidable:

1. The public's right to report crime was unlawfully suppressed across the UK.

This undermines the legitimacy of the police's core function.

## 2. Oversight bodies were deceived.

SPA, HMICFRS, COPFS, CPS and both Covid Inquiries were kept in the dark.

## 3. Confidence in policing has been profoundly damaged.

Not through error, but through deliberate, concealed operational conduct.

This is not a procedural failing, but a constitutional injury. A wound inflicted on public trust and democratic accountability.

And it was revealed because Police Scotland accidentally wrote down the truth.

## **8. Conclusion: The System They Never Intended You to See**

The hidden system operated quietly. Smoothly. Silently. Across borders. Across commands. Across jurisdictions.

It existed in:

- whispered briefings,
- email chains,
- cultural assumptions,
- operational expectations,
- and narrative engineering.

It was never meant to be known.

It was never meant to be documented.

It was never meant to be exposed.

But the Speirs Directive changed everything.

By writing down the suppression - by formalising the covert - Police Scotland created the weakest link in the entire system.

And that link, once pulled, unravelled the truth:

A UK-wide unlawful suppression practice was operating in secret, depriving the public of their right to report serious concerns.

The Speirs Directive exposed it.

And policing integrity across Britain has been irreparably compromised, perhaps forever, as a result.