Dear Chief Constables,

S31 represents the overarching Gold strategy for the policing response to the FIFA World Cup 2026, hosted across the USA, Canada and Mexico. As a nation, we anticipate significant public interest and demand, with high ticket sales expected despite cost considerations. As with previous tournaments, the evolving geopolitical landscape presents additional complexities requiring coordinated planning and response.

In recent tournaments, policing has sought to better understand the correlation between major football events and increases in Domestic Abuse (DA). To support this and aligned to the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) agenda, a complementary operation will again run alongside **S31** to enhance safeguarding and improve insight into this issue.

This approach also provides a valuable opportunity to inform planning and preparedness for UEFA Euro 2028, which will be hosted in the UK and Ireland.

Operation FLAGSHIP will deliver a dedicated national response to Domestic Abuse during the World Cup, supported by a clear 4P framework (Pursue, Prevent, Protect, Prepare). Forces are asked to support this work by , providing daily updates during the tournament via **S31** coordination meetings and reporting all football-related Domestic Abuse incidents

This data will support ongoing research into the relationship between football tournaments and Domestic Abuse, and VAWG in public spaces, with findings shared post-tournament to inform future operational and safeguarding activity.

The Operational Order is attached, including a summary table outlining the specific data requirements. Your support and compliance are essential to ensuring we effectively safeguard victims during this tournament and strengthen our approach for future tournaments and specifically ahead of Euro 2028.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Constable Mark Roberts
NPCC Lead for Football

Assistant Commissioner Louisa Rolfe
NPCC Lead for Domestic Abuse

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