

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

PEEL Assessment Update 21 April 2015

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update the Police and Crime Panel on action taken following the publication of the first PEEL assessments in November 2014.

BACKGROUND

PEEL stands for the police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy programme. PEEL is the programme in which HMIC draws together evidence from its annual all-force inspections in order to assess the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of the police. HMIC has introduced these assessments so that the public will be able to judge the performance of their force and policing as a whole.

The effectiveness of a force is assessed in relation to how it carries out its responsibilities including cutting crime, protecting the vulnerable, tackling anti-social behaviour and dealing with emergencies and other calls for service. Efficiency is assessed in relation to how it provides value for money and legitimacy is assessed in relation to whether the force operates fairly, ethically and within the law.

The evidence from inspections, together with the context within which forces operate, allows HMIC to make an assessment of each of the 43 police forces in England and Wales.

CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF SURREY POLICE

In relation to effectiveness, HMIC's assessment for 2014 found that, in general, Surrey Police was good at reducing crime and preventing offending and was making good progress in tackling anti-social behaviour. However, HMIC stated that the force required improvement in the way it investigated offending and the quality of service it provided to vulnerable victims.

In relation to efficiency, HMIC reported that the force's response to the financial challenge of the spending review had been good and, through its widening collaboration with Sussex Police, was well placed to manage further austerity in the future.

In relation to legitimacy, HMIC reported that the force was acting to achieve fairness and legitimacy in most of the practices that it had examined for the 2014 assessment. It was found that the force had made good progress since the last HMIC inspection, embedding positive behaviour, good standards and a clear plan for implementing the Code of Ethics. The anti-corruption unit capability was found to be effective but its capacity limited. It was also stated that there was need to improve how the force reduced the risk of corruption and increased capacity to prevent and investigate.

The full Assessment can be read online: www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/surrey/

INTERNAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Surrey Police has an internal Crime Performance Board which is chaired by Deputy Chief Constable Nick Ephgrave. The Crime Performance Board aims to:

- Identify areas of current performance risk and present analysis to inform discussion and action.
- Hold unit commanders to account for the performance of their respective command, to identify areas of high performance and promulgate best practice.
- Identify performance trends and plan activity in advance to mitigate anticipated performance challenges, to co-ordinate force initiatives in line with known seasonal trend.
- Ensure consistent messaging and compelling communication of performance across the force via the Monthly Force Performance Bulletin.

In light of the new PEEL assessment methodology, a new performance governance framework has been developed for 2015/16. The new framework mirrors the HMIC's 'PEEL' inspection framework of the three pillars of Effectiveness, Legitimacy and Efficiency, allowing for the Force to better monitor progress against these areas and better address any concerns raised by HMIC.

NEXT STEPS

HMIC will be visiting Surrey Police as part of its Efficiency, Leadership and Legitimacy Inspection Programme from 20 April 2015. The inspection and subsequent debrief will provide a good opportunity to consider progress made since the publication of the last PEEL assessment in November 2014 and details of the findings will be shared with the Police and Crime Panel at its meeting in June.

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