

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

HMICFRS INSPECTION REPORTS

5 April 2019

SUMMARY

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) is the independent inspection body for policing.

HMICFRS carries out the following types of inspections:

- An annual inspection of all police forces with individual published reports. This is known as PEEL – Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy. Each of the three elements are graded. There are four possible grades: inadequate, requires improvement, good, outstanding.
- National thematic inspections – where a specific policing issue is inspected using a sample of between 6 and all 43 forces, depending on the issue. These issues are chosen either by HMICFRS or by the Home Secretary
- Joint inspections with other agencies, e.g. inspections on custody facilities with HM Inspectorate of Prisons
- Commissioned inspections – A Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) or the Home Secretary can commission HMICFRS to carry out a force-level inspection on a particular topic.

As well as reporting on the inspections, HMICFRS also publishes data and information. This includes annual Value for Money profiles.

The Police & Crime Commissioner's (PCC) role in inspections is to receive the reports and publish comments on the recommendations made by HMICFRS. The PCC should then use the findings to scrutinise the police force performance, particularly in areas which contribute to the achievement of the Police and Crime Plan.

The Police and Crime Panel's role is to ensure that the PCC is taking into account inspection reports and the recommendations therein when holding the Chief Constable to account.

HMICFRS REPORTS FOR SURREY

Since the last report to the Panel in July 2017, the following reports relating to Surrey Police have been published:

- Surrey Police: Crime Data Integrity Inspection – October 2018

The annual PEEL (Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy) inspections have now been integrated. Surrey is currently being inspected, with reporting expected in August 2019.

HMICFRS can make recommendations within their reports, including where a good assessment has been made. These recommendations require a specific response to HMICFRS from the PCC, having first sought comment from the Chief Constable. In the reports covered above, no recommendations were made by HMICFRS. The inspectorate can also identify Areas for Improvement. These are up to forces to consider whether and how they will implement and don't require a specific response from the PCC. The Areas for Improvement identified in the reports shown above include:

In the Crime Data Integrity Inspection, Surrey Police were graded as 'Good' with HMICFRS recognising improvements made by Surrey Police and the majority of crimes being recorded to national standards. HMICFRS has recognised Surrey as 'outstanding' for having a strong, demonstrable leadership and a clear commitment to get crime recording right. HMICFRS did highlight some Areas for Improvement as follows:

- remind staff with crime-recording responsibilities of the need to record **all** crimes at the first point at which sufficient information exists to do so, particularly in domestic abuse cases;
- ensure that all reported sexual crimes (including rape) are recorded without delay;
- ensure that all crimes disclosed during modern slavery investigations are recorded without delay;
- ensure that classification N100 is used correctly¹;
- ensure that reports of crime made by third parties acting on behalf of the victim in a professional capacity are recorded;
- improve the process for cancelling crimes where additional verifiable information exists and ensure that all victims who have their crimes cancelled are informed of that fact; and
- improve how it collects diversity information from victims of crime and how it uses this to comply with its equality duty.

The Chief Constable and PCC responded to the inspection and actions have been put in place to address each of the areas highlighted above.

¹ N100 is a record created to explain why reported incidents of rape or attempted rapes, whether from victims, witnesses or third parties, have not been immediately recorded as a confirmed crime.

NATIONAL INSPECTION REPORTS

In addition to Surrey specific inspections, HMICFRS carries out national inspections which cover policing. These may include recommendations which PCCs are required to respond to, having first sought comment from the Chief Constable. National inspections since the last report to the panel in April 2018 are:

- The Initial Police Response to Hate Crime
- Joint Inspection of the Handling of Cases Involving Disability Hate Crime – October 2018
- Policing and Mental Health – November 2018

All HMICFRS reports can be viewed on the HMIC website:

<https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmicfrs>

FORCE MANAGEMENT STATEMENTS

From October 2017, HMICFRS have required Chief Constables to prepare and give to HMICFRS a self-assessment, called the Force Management Statement (FMS). HMICFRS consulted on the design of the FMSs and published a template and guidance in March 2018. It is up to Chief Constables to publish the statements as they see fit. The Surrey Police FMS can be viewed at

<https://www.surrey.police.uk/police-forces/surrey-police/areas/au/about-us/priorities-and-direction/>

PCC RESPONSE

The PCC responded to each of the above reports. The responses are on the HMICFRS website as well as the PCC's website and can be viewed here:

<http://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk/information/HMICFRS/>.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE PCC

The OPCC ensures that all HMICFRS reports and recommendations made are monitored. All of these actions have been accepted by Surrey Police and are part of an internal action plan, monitored at regular meetings by the Force at which the OPCC has a representative and by the Joint Audit Committee. The OPCC has full access to the force action plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That members of the Police and Crime Panel note the report and HMICFRS findings.

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