



RESPONSE BY THE PCC TO HMICFRS INSPECTIONS OF CLEVELAND POLICE

INSPECTION DETAILS

Title of Inspection

PEEL: HMICFRS Annual Assessment 2018

Date Inspection Published

April 2018

Type of Inspection:

Cleveland Specific

Follow Up

Partner Inspection

National

Thematic

Is Cleveland Police quoted in the Report?

Yes

No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

Cleveland Police has been assessed by HMICFRS as being a “Good” Force for the second year running.

Individual inspections in 2017 and early 2018 looked at efficiency, legitimacy and effectiveness; the judgements from each inspection were then brought together with other findings and information to produce a rounded annual assessment of Cleveland Police.

Reporting on Efficiency and Leadership in November last year, Inspectors concluded the Force is “Good” at keeping people safe and has strong and effective leadership.

It highlighted the Force’s strength in forward planning, understanding demand, listening to and receiving feedback from its workforce, seeking and implementing new ideas and effective partnership working.

A Legitimacy report published in December 2017 detailed how the Force’s officers and staff treat people. While acknowledging that there were some areas for improvement, it stated that Everyone Matters (the Force’s organisational development programme delivering on equality, diversity and human rights), and the Transforming Professional Standards process (which has delivered an innovative, ground breaking Directorate of Standards and Ethics) were having a positive effect.

Both Everyone Matters and leading Professional Standards reform, are key commitments in the PCC’s *Investing in Our Police* objective under Cleveland’s Police & Crime Plan.

The Effectiveness inspection focused on areas of policing where risk to the public was most acute, including preventing crime and tackling antisocial behaviour, protecting vulnerable people and specialist capabilities. Inspectors again gave a “Good” ranking for the Force in how it keeps people safe and reduces crime.

FORCE RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS

Chief Constable Mike Veale said: “I’m delighted to see that the HMICFRS, an independent watchdog, has again rated Cleveland Police as “Good”; this shows the excellent progress we have made and it makes for a solid foundation as we aim to become one of the top performing Forces in the country.

“Having only been in the Force for a few weeks I have been incredibly impressed by the officers and staff who do such a great job in protecting our communities. We know we have more work to do to take our service to the next level so we will continue the work we have commenced to address the areas we could be better in.

“As a Force, we remain committed to providing the very best service we can.”

PCC RESPONSE TO INSPECTION

Comment by the PCC:

PCC Barry Coppinger added: “Today’s report makes pleasant reading in the main and it is clear evidence of the excellent progress the Force is making.

“The inspector has recognised the progress we have made in our approach to dealing with people and complaints. This is on-going work and I know that further improvement is needed.

“I echo the Chief Constable in his desire to see Cleveland Police as an outstanding Force and I firmly believe there is the drive, energy and commitment right across the organisation for this to happen.

“There’s no denying that policing nationally is under extreme pressure - and Cleveland is no exception. Financial pressures and the ever changing nature of crime all present a challenge but it is one which we will rise to.

“At the many community meetings I attend, I receive positive feedback about the work our officers are doing. The public can be reassured that we will always do all we can to identify areas of threat, risk and harm and that our priority is keeping them safe.

“I know that police officers, staff and volunteers are justifiably proud of the work that they do to make a difference to our communities and I call upon all local leaders to recognise the

progress that Cleveland Police continues to make as a 'Good' police service on a journey towards achieving a rating of Outstanding.”

Focus on the HMICFRS areas for improvement (AFI) continues to remain an integral part of the scrutiny programme and the Force are asked on a regular basis to attend the scrutiny meetings to account for how they are preparing for inspections and also to provide details of their response to, and progress with, AFIs.

For example, there have been in-depth scrutiny of Human Resources which included issues about succession planning and skills audit arising from the PEEL Efficiency Inspection, a detailed consideration of actions arising from the National Child Protection Inspection, consideration of stop and search as detailed in the PEEL Legitimacy inspection and review of all of the actions arising from the previous PEEL Effectiveness Inspection.

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