



## RESPONSE BY THE PCC TO HMICFRS INSPECTIONS OF CLEVELAND POLICE

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Title of Inspection

**PEEL: PCC HMICFRS Response Policing and Mental Health - Cleveland**

Date Inspection Published

27 November 2018

Type of Inspection:

Cleveland Specific

National

Follow Up

Thematic

Partner Inspection

Is Cleveland Police quoted in the Report?

Yes

No

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

The inspection found that nationally, the police approach to people with mental health problems was generally supportive, considerate and compassionate. However there was much more the police could do to improve the overall picture. The HMICFRS were of the view that too many aspects of the broader mental health system were broken and the police were left to pick up the pieces. The fact that almost every police force now has its own mental health triage team indicated that there wasn't nearly enough emphasis on early intervention and primary care to prevent the need for a crisis response. HMICFRS stated that the system was failing people when they most needed help and that was not a problem the police alone could solve.

All too often the police found themselves responsible for the safety and welfare of people that other professionals would be better placed to deal with. It meant that already overstretched and all-too-often overwhelmed police officers couldn't always respond appropriately, and people in mental health crisis didn't always get the help they need. That can take a heavy emotional toll on officers and staff.

The report made the following recommendations

1. That the NPCC lead and College of Policing should agree a new national definition of mental ill-health for all forces to adopt.
2. All forces should carry out a 'snapshot' exercise to assess their mental health-related demand.

3. All forces should evaluate their mental health triage services.
4. All forces should review their mental health training programmes
5. The Crisis Care Concordat steering group should carry out a fundamental review and make proposals for change.

## **PCC RESPONSE TO INSPECTION**

Comment by the PCC:

The recommendations pertaining to the Police (2,3 and 4) will be subject to review through my Scrutiny Programme.

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