

Meeting Date	3 February 2023
Report of	The Police and Crime Commissioner
Subject	His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services' inspection of South Yorkshire Police for Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides members of the Police and Crime Panel (the Panel) with an update on the latest inspection of South Yorkshire Police (SYP) by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) for Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL).

RECOMMENDATION

Members of the Panel are recommended to note the contents of this report and comment on any matters arising.

CONTENTS

Main Report

The HMICFRS's report, and the PCC's media release in response, to follow after publication

BACKGROUND

1. HMICFRS's annual inspection programmes are subject to the approval of the Home Secretary.
2. The inspectorate's powers do not extend to the inspection of PCCs but in May 2015 their statutory remit changed to include contractors and to any staff employed by PCCs who support the police and deliver policing functions.
3. Most, if not all, HMICFRS reports are published thereby informing the public of the outcomes of inspection work carried out.
4. Work is also undertaken with other inspectorates within the criminal justice system, and other across other partnerships more broadly, to address problems that involve more than one agency. These inspections include work with Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission, HMI Probation on child protection, and the programme of police custody inspections with HMI Prisons.
5. The PCC looks for assurance from HMICFRS that SYP is delivering efficient and effective policing services and that SYP has legitimacy with South Yorkshire's communities. Where recommendations and other service improvements are identified, the PCC expects SYP to address these in accordance with agreed timescales.
6. Section 55(5) of the Police Act 1996 (as amended) requires PCCs to prepare comments on any of HMICFRS's published reports that relate to their local force, and then publish these in the manner they see fit. Section 55(6) requires PCCs to send a copy of these comments to the Home Secretary.
7. As part of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011 (amended 2021) PCCs are required to publish under section 54(2) of the Police Act 1996 (appointment and functions of inspectors of constabulary) (2) the most recent:
 - (a) Annual report on the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of the police force maintained by the elected local policing body;
 - (b) Summary assessment of the performance of the police maintained by the elected local policing body.

HMICFRS's PEEL (Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy) Inspections

8. Since 2014, the Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL) programme has assessed the performance of all 43 police forces in England and Wales.
9. HMICFRS's methodology and the questions that make up the PEEL assessments have evolved over time – to adapt to changing priorities and circumstances in policing. HMICFRS has also changed its approach to graded judgements. They assess forces against the characteristics of good

performance, and more clearly link their judgements to causes of concerns and areas for improvement. They have expanded their previous four-tier system of judgements to five tiers:

- Outstanding
- Good
- Adequate
- Requires improvement
- Inadequate

As a result, HMICFRS can state more precisely where they consider improvement is needed and highlight more effectively the best ways of delivering services. However, these changes mean that it is not possible to make direct comparisons between the grades awarded this year with those from previous PEEL inspections. A reduction in grade, particularly from good to adequate, does not necessarily mean that there has been a deterioration in performance, due to the above factors.

UPDATE

HMICFRS's PEEL Inspections in 2019

1. In its PEEL inspection report for 2018/19 report, published on Friday 27 September 2019, HMICFRS rated SYP as "Good" in all 3 areas and in the particular areas of developing an ethical culture and tackling corruption SYP was rated as "Outstanding". The full report can be found here:
<https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/peel-assessments/peel-2018/south-yorkshire>.

HMICFRS's PEEL Inspections in 2022

2. HMICFRS is due to publish SYP's latest PEEL Inspection report on 2 February 2023, in the following assessment areas:

Assessment Area
Providing a service to victims of crime
Engaging with and treating the public with fairness and respect
Preventing crime and anti-social behaviour
Responding to the public
Investigating crime
Protecting vulnerable people

Managing offenders and suspects
Disrupting serious organised crime
Building, supporting and protecting the workforce
Strategic planning, organisational management and value for money

So, it is anticipated that HMICFRS's published report will be available by the time of the Panel's meeting on 3 February, together with the PCC's response to it through his media release.

CONCLUSION

1. It is hoped that through HMICFRS inspections over the last 4 years, SYP is demonstrating a clear commitment to improvement in force performance and policing services to the public.
2. SYP has set out its future ambition to build on this journey of continuous improvement. It will invest its resources wisely to meet policing needs over the medium and long term. But the future brings challenges created by the state of the economy and other changes brought by the Covid-19 global pandemic, as well as the need to respond to new Government initiatives, including the financial and operational implications of the national uplift programme for the increase in police officer numbers, nationally.

IMPLICATIONS

1. Whilst there are resourcing implications in SYP relating to resources required to support individual inspections, there are no implications of significance specifically relating to this report.

List of background documents		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report - HMICFRS Inspection of South Yorkshire Police – PEEL: Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy 2018/19 • Report - HMICFRS Inspection of South Yorkshire Police – PEEL: Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy 2022 – to follow once published • Media release from the PCC in response to HMICFRS report for the inspection in 2022 – to follow once published 		
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