

Metropolitan Police Service's approach to efficiency judged to be 'good' by HMIC

In the second year of assessing police against the annual PEEL Efficiency inspection, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary examined how police forces use their resources now and how they plan to do so in the future in order to keep people safe and reduce crime.

Forces were inspected on how well they are able to predict demand for their services now and in the longer term, and how they manage their resources, especially their officers and staff.

HMIC inspects all police forces in England and Wales on an annual basis against the themes of effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy.

This year, HMIC found the Metropolitan Police Service:

- is good at understanding its current and likely future demand;
- has sound financial plans including for buildings and the way local policing is organised;
- is investing to fill the gaps in the skills in its workforce; and
- has ambitious plans for the future use of IT which must be followed through with sufficient training for staff and evaluation.

HM Inspector of Constabulary Matt Parr said:

"For the second year running, HMIC judged that the Metropolitan Police Service is 'good' in how it manages its resources and matches them to the public need, now and in the future. In particular, I welcome the Met's work to seek the public's views on its services.

"HMIC was pleased to see that the force works well with other agencies to understand what causes demand, and how efficiency can be improved. It is also commendable that the Met has worked to understand emerging demand and hidden crimes such as child sexual exploitation and cyber crime.

"The Met has ambitious plans for its ICT. It must ensure that it is able to fully realise the benefits and efficiencies of this investment. That will help it to fully support the force's current and future demand efficiently. I look forward to seeing how its ICT strategy develops.

"The force's workforce, estates and strategic partnership plans are challenging, but we believe them to be realistic.

"Therefore, based on our inspection findings, I am pleased to judge the Metropolitan Police Service as 'good' overall at efficiently keeping the public safe and reducing crime."

HMIC will report on its findings of police forces' legitimacy, or the way that forces are fair and ethical, at the end of this year, and on the effectiveness of police forces in managing all aspects of crime in spring 2017.

Notes to editors

- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) is an independent inspectorate, inspecting policing in the public interest, and assesses and reports on the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of police forces in tackling crime and terrorism, improve criminal justice and raise confidence. HMIC inspects all 43 police forces in England and Wales together with other major policing and law enforcement bodies.
- 2. As part of its annual inspections of police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy (PEEL), HMIC's Efficiency programme assessed and graded all 43 forces in England and Wales on how efficient they are at keeping people safe and reducing crime.
- 3. To answer this question we looked at three areas:
 - 1. How well does the force use its resources to meet demand?
 - 2. How sustainable and affordable is the workforce model?
 - 3. How sustainable is the force's financial position for the short and long term?
- 4. Two of the 43 forces in England and Wales received an 'outstanding' grade in HMIC's efficiency inspection (Durham and West Midlands).
- 5. Eight forces received a 'requires improvement' grade (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, City of London, Devon and Cornwall, Dyfed Powys, Humberside, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire Police).
- 6. The remaining 33 forces were judged as 'good'.
- 7. No forces were judged to be 'inadequate'.
- 8. In addition to an inspection report for each force, a national report, PEEL: Police Efficiency 2016 gives an overview of findings across England and Wales.
- 9. Last year (2015), five forces were 'outstanding' (Cheshire; Durham; Lancashire; Norfolk; and West Midlands). Eight forces received a 'requires improvement' grade (Bedfordshire; Cleveland; Dorset; Dyfed Powys; Lincolnshire; Northamptonshire; South Yorkshire; and Surrey). One force received an 'inadequate' grade (Humberside) and the remaining 29 forces were judged as 'good'. These reports are available on our website.
- 10. For further information, HMIC's press office can be contacted during office hours from 8:30am 5:00pm (GMT) Monday Friday on 020 3513 0600.
- 11. HMIC's out-of-hours press office line for urgent media enquiries is 07836 217 729.