

## Greater Manchester Police judged as 'good' at legitimately keeping people safe and reducing crime – HMIC

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has assessed how legitimate Greater Manchester Police is at keeping people safe and reducing crime. This is the second year running HMIC has carried out inspections of this kind, which makes up part of HMIC's annual PEEL inspections.

HMIC considers a police force to be legitimate if it has the consent of the public, and if those working in the force consistently behave in a way that is fair, ethical, and within the law.

To assess this, HMIC has inspected how well forces: treat the people they serve; ensure their workforce acts ethically and lawfully; and treat their workforces with fairness and respect. The findings of this inspection are included in a report, published today.

This inspection also included, for the first time, an assessment of how well forces tackle the problem of abuse of authority for sexual gain by members of its workforce. This serious form of corruption betrays the trust of the public and, while we identified some examples of good practice, there remain significant areas where forces must improve. The service needs to be more proactive in seeking out and preventing this form of corruption, and referring cases of abuse of authority to the IPCC.

HMIC found that Greater Manchester Police:

- strives to treat all of the people it serves with fairness and respect;
- is good at ensuring that its workforce behaves ethically and lawfully; and
- is good at treating its workforce with fairness and respect.

### **HM Inspector of Constabulary Mike Cunningham said:**

"Following our inspection, I have judged Greater Manchester Police as 'good' at how legitimately it keeps people safe and reduces crime. We found good examples of where this feedback, and other issues identified by the force, had led to improvements to the service it provides.

"In terms of how its workforce behaves, we found that the force has reinforced the standards of acceptable behaviour, in line with the service-wide Code of

Ethics. This was an area of improvement we identified last year, so it is encouraging to see the force has addressed it. The force has a robust strategy in place for how it identifies the main risks to the organisation. It also has effective processes in place to monitor potential abuse of power for sexual gain by members of its workforce.

"The force is clearly committed to improving workforce wellbeing, and has a good understanding of the needs of its officers and staff. I was pleased to find that the majority of people we interviewed as part of this inspection said they felt the support available to them had improved over the last 12 months."

HMIC has also published individual assessments of the leadership within each police force in England and Wales. These, along with individual reports on the legitimacy of all forces in England and Wales, are available on HMIC's website.