

Warwickshire Joint Audit and Standards Committee Report Summary

Meeting Date: 17th March

Subject: HMICFRS Update Report

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The Service Improvement Team (SIT) continue to support all functions across Warwickshire Police in their improvement against HMICFRS actions, recommendation and causes of concern. The team continue to regularly engage with the HMICFRS FLL (Force Liaison Lead) Gary Ashton, along with attending regional and national meetings. Analysis and Service Improvement (A&SI) continues to track improvement activity and undertake performance monitoring and auditing as scheduled.

It has been a busy period post-Christmas with a number of key publications being released by the inspectorate. These were the 'Evidence Led Domestic Abuse Publication' and the 'National Child Protection Report'. The force is currently preparing S.55 responses to both publications which will be shared with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in the near future. These in turn will be published on their website and shared with the JAC.

The HMICFRS Bail and Released Under Investigation (RUI) thematic inspection continues with another visit by the inspectorate at the end of the month. This will be their second visit and will be focusing on bail and RUI cases that resulted in no further action being taken. We will continue to support this thematic inspection and look forward to the recommendations along with the wider national review into the bail and RUI legislation.

Gary Ashton the FLL and his inspection officer Martin Schorah will be back in force in April to re-inspect the investigations cause of concern. This will take the form of a number of interviews from strategic to tactical level along with a number of focus groups and reality testing. We look forward to sharing with them the positive steps that have already been taken and also take feedback from them on areas for further improvement.

HMICFRS will also return in May to conduct inspection activity around efficiency. Similar to the investigations visit this will include interviews as well as insight activity. We hope they will note the huge amount of effort that has been undertaken by the Evolve change team as part of the alliance transition.

HMICFRS has recently launched the PEEL 2020 inspection programme. This has included the new question set. We have yet to be informed of the next inspection date, however it is already clear

that there is a much greater focus on continuous inspection to sit alongside our continuous improvement activity. In reality this looks like a much more frequent interaction between ourselves and the FLL with more regular insight visits into force.

Preparations for the 2020 Force Management Statement are well underway. A&SI will be interviewing all key stakeholders and completing an Organisational Morale Risk Assessment. This will help us to better understand demand and where organisational risk sits within the force. The FMS will be completed by May and submitted to HMICFRS as part of their inspection programme.

SIT continues to support the Warwickshire Assurance Board and track activities against the improvement activity tracker. The focus of the most recent assurance board was Digital Forensics and Serious Organised Crime (SOC) with the next board focusing on standards of investigation.

Recommendations:

- a) To nominate a representative to review the action tracker on behalf of the JAC
- b) To note the work being undertaken on behalf of the force