

Committee(s): Audit and Risk Management Committee	Date(s): 1 st October 2020
Subject: Annual Summary of HMICFRS Inspections and Reports	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police	For Information
Report author: Head of Strategic Development, City of London Police	

Summary

This report provides Members with an overview of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) continuing programme of inspections and published reports, together with the City of London Police (CoLP) response where relevant. It additionally provides assurance that the recommendations from reports are being addressed by the Force.

During the reporting period (September 2019 – September 2020) HMICFRS published 9 reports relevant to the City of London Police:

- Shining a light on betrayal: Abuse of position for sexual purposes (national report by HMICFRS published September 2019);
- Cyber: Keep the light on (national report of HMICFRS published October 2019)
- Evidence led domestic abuse prosecutions (national joint report by HMICFRS and HMCPSI published January 2020)
- Child protection 2019 (national report of HMICFRS, published February 2020)
- Integrated offender management (national joint report of HMICFRS and HMI Probation, published February 2020)
- Multi-agency response to child sexual abuse in the family environment (national report of HMICFRS, published February 2020)
- Counter Terrorism (national report of HMICFRS, published March 2020)
- City of London Police Child Protection (Force report by HMICFRS, published July 2020)
- Roads policing: Not optional (national report by HMICFRS, published July 2020)

Only one inspection, Child Abuse, involved a physical inspection of the City of London Police, with all other inspections being assessed against data returns and self-assessments. All reports together with details of progress against recommendations and areas for further improvement are reported in detail quarterly to the Police Performance and Resource Management Committee for scrutiny and oversight. During the time the Committees did not sit, detailed progress was reported to the Police Authority Board.

Recommendation

Members are asked to receive this report and note its contents.

Main Report

Background

1. This report provides Members with an overview of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) continuing programme of inspections and published reports, together with the City of London Police (CoLP) response where relevant. It also provides assurance that the recommendations from reports are being addressed by the Force.
2. Members are reminded that HMICFRS use the terms 'recommendation' and 'area for further improvement' (AFI) to denote specific levels of concern. A recommendation is only made where in HMICFRS's assessment there is a significant underlying cause for concern. Where there is no such concern but where HMICFRS feel general improvements can be made, areas for further improvement are identified.

Current Position

3. During the reporting period (September 2019 – September 2020) HMICFRS published 7 reports relevant to the City of London Police. This is fewer than the number of reports that would usually be published and is due to the Covid-19 situation. HMICFRS suspended all inspection activity at the end of March 2020. Inspections (conducted remotely) resumed in late August 2020.

Shining a light on betrayal: Abuse of position for sexual purposes (national report by HMICFRS published September 2019)

4. This report provides a national picture of abuse of position for a sexual purpose in police forces, drawing on the finalised findings from the 29 forces in the first two tranches of the integrated PEEL (Police Efficiency, Effectiveness and Legitimacy) assessments, and the early findings from the third and final tranche of forces.
5. The report made 6 recommendations, 4 of which were relevant to the City of London Police. All recommendations except 1 have been implemented by CoLP; the outstanding recommendation (which relates to the roll out of new IT) is expected to be delivered by November 2020.

Cyber: Keep the light on (national report of HMICFRS published October 2019)

6. This national report focuses on the effectiveness and efficiency of the police service response to cyber dependent crime. HMICFRS assessed the extent to which:
 - i. Policing has a well-designed strategy for tackling cyber-dependent crime;

- ii. organisational structures provide the necessary capacity, capabilities and partnerships;
 - iii. victims of cyber-dependent crime receive a high-quality response; and
 - iv. staff at local and national levels are provided with appropriate learning opportunities to deal with cyber-dependent crime.
7. The report made 5 recommendations, 4 of which were relevant to the City of London Police. All have been implemented.

Evidence led domestic abuse prosecutions (joint national report by HMICFRS and HMCPSI published January 2020)

8. This national report looks at situations where if a victim of domestic abuse decides not to support a prosecution, police and prosecutors should consider whether it is possible to bring a prosecution without that support (an 'evidence led prosecution'). Her Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPSI) and HMICFRS conducted the inspection to establish whether the guidance and policy on evidence led prosecutions is widely understood by both police officers and prosecutors and whether they seek to build viable evidence led prosecutions where appropriate.
9. The report made 8 recommendations, 6 of which were relevant to the City of London Police. All have been implemented.

Child protection 2019 (national report of HMICFRS, published February 2020)

10. This national report examines the effectiveness of the decisions made by the police at each stage of their interactions with or for children, from initial contact through to the investigation of offences against them. The treatment of children in custody was scrutinised, together with force structures, leadership and governance in relation to their child protection services.
11. The report aimed to build on the findings of previous reports by exploring the key themes identified by the evidence gathered from all 64 inspections published to date (both individual force and joint targeted area inspections) and considered ways in which the police service, its safeguarding partners and the government need to adapt and respond in order to meet the presented challenges.
12. The report made 6 recommendations, 3 of which were (at the time) relevant to the City of London Police. 1 recommendation was subsequently closed as it related to those forces that had not been individually inspected, which CoLP duly was. The 2 remaining recommendations (relating to mitigating the criminalisation of children and reporting performance in this area) are being implemented, with progress reported to the Police Performance and Resources Management Committee.

**Multi-agency response to child sexual abuse in the family environment
(national report of HMICFRS, published February 2020)**

13. This national report draws together findings from six joint targeted area inspections, which does not include the City of London Police, focusing on the multi-agency response to child sexual abuse in the family environment. The findings consider the extent to which children's social care, health professionals, the police and probation officers were effective in safeguarding children who live with sexual abuse in the family environment. National themes and issues are identified in the report highlighting the need for professionals to give sexual abuse a higher priority in local areas, through improved training and awareness-raising of the problem. This report did not make any recommendations for implementation.

Integrated offender management (national joint report of HMICFRS and HMI Probation, published February 2020)

14. This national inspection report was produced jointly by HMICFRS and HMI Probation. The report found that the principal reason Integrated Offender Management (IOM) exists (to bring together police, probation services and other agencies to identify and manage repeat offenders in local communities) was low on forces' priorities.
15. City of London Police was not inspected for this report. Qualifying offenders for IOM are managed by the force in which they reside; there are no qualifying offenders residing in the City for the Force to directly manage. Force efforts are directed at engaging with forces whose IOM offenders commit crime in the City and seeking preventative measures.
16. The report made 11 recommendations, 4 of which were relevant for the City of London Police; 3 have been implemented and 1, which relates to the publication of a standard operating procedure covering roles and responsibilities of partner agencies, is in progress.

Counter-terrorism policing - an inspection of the police's contribution to the government's Prevent programme (national report of HMICFRS published March 2020)

17. In this national report, HMICFRS found that forces in general were meeting their Prevent duty, working effectively with other organisations and using policies and effective processes designed to protect people from being radicalised. There were no recommendations for the Force to address.

City of London Police Child Protection (Force report by HMICFRS, published July 2020)

18. This Force-level report examined the same themes as the national inspection (see paragraphs 10-11) but followed an individual inspection of the Force. The subsequent report made 6 recommendations, which have been made into a

comprehensive action plan for delivery. The action plan has been shared with HMICFRS who have commented favourably on its comprehensiveness. The Force will be re-inspected in six months time to assess progress against the action plan.

Roads policing: Not optional (national report by HMICFRS, published July 2020)

19. This national thematic report by HMICFRS sought to establish how effectively the road network of England and Wales is policed, specifically:

- i. are national and local roads policing strategies effective?
- ii. does capability and capacity match demand?
- iii. do the police engage effectively with the public and partners? and
- iv. how well police officers are trained to deal with roads policing matters?

20. The report made 9 recommendations, 8 of which are relevant for the Force. 2 have already been met and 6, which are subject to a detailed action plan, are in progress.

Conclusion

21. HMICFRS continues to deliver a comprehensive and robust inspection regime to test delivery of policing services and ensure that high standards are maintained by forces. The Force continues to acquit itself well. Members of your Committee can be assured that together with the support and oversight of the Police Performance and Resource Management Committee, it will continue to do so.

Appendices

None

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