



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Constable

Date: 25 February 2015

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an operational update to the Business Coordination Board ("the Board"). The paper covers Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) inspections, significant operations and effective and efficient policing.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

3. HMIC Inspections Update

3.1 Stop People Inspection

3.1.1 HMIC carried out a joint visit to Cambridgeshire Constabulary ("the Constabulary") and Hertfordshire Constabulary between 27th and 29th January 2015 to look at 'Stop People' arrangements in the two Forces.

3.1.2 HMIC originally titled the inspection 'Stop Search' but was retitled to 'Stop People' to reflect its focus on wider Police powers to stop individuals (including stop and seizure of alcohol and tobacco, dispersal orders, dispersal under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, and stops of vehicles under Section 163 Road Traffic Act 1988).

3.1.3 This inspection was not an individual Constabulary inspection, and no Force inspection report will be produced. Feedback from the HMIC hot debrief of the inspection was very positive around the measures taken by the Constabulary to improve its stop search procedures and its early adoption of the Home Office guidance on Better Use of Stop Search.

3.2 Child Protection Inspection

- 3.2.1 The Constabulary was informed in mid-January 2015, that an HMIC inspection of child protection in Cambridgeshire would be taking place at some point between mid-February 2015 and the end of June 2015. As a precursor to the inspection the Constabulary was required to conduct an audit of 33 child protection cases, complete a comprehensive self-assessment, and provide a large number of supporting documents, by 11th February 2015.
- 3.2.2 On 11th February 2015, HMIC informed the Constabulary and the Police and Crime Commissioner that the inspection would be postponed. Whilst the information the Constabulary had collected would not be required, HMIC felt that it would provide a strong basis for future service development.

3.3 So-called Honour Based Violence Inspection (HBV)

- 3.3.1 An inspection of the police response to 'so called' honour-based violence (HBV) is one of two HMIC inspections planned that will inform the next annual all police force Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL) assessments (the other being 'Identifying Vulnerability in Police Prosecution Case Files' (VICF)). The HBV inspection also includes forced-marriage and female genital mutilation. Both the HBV and the VICF inspections are a continuation of HMIC's work to examine and assess the effectiveness of the police response to protecting vulnerable people.
- 3.3.2 The HBV inspection will take place in two phases; the first of which will be desk-based and will commence on 16th February 2015. Phase One will require police forces to complete a self-assessment and provide a number of documents in support of the criteria being inspected, together with associated data.
- 3.3.3 Phase Two of the inspection will take place later in the year and will involve more in-depth inspections of a number of forces, selection of which will be drawn from relevant data and information gathered during Phase One.

3.4 Identifying Vulnerability in Police Prosecution Case Files Inspection

- 3.4.1 The Vulnerability in Case Files (VICF) inspection follows on from and builds on two previous HMIC reports: 'Everyone's business: Improving the police response to domestic abuse', and 'Crime recording: a matter of fact', in which HMIC examined the accuracy of crime recording, in particular allegations of rape and other sexual offences, and considered the impact of police practice on vulnerable victims.
- 3.4.2 The inspection will examine the effectiveness of the police identification of vulnerable victims and witnesses, and how risk is subsequently assessed and managed in the course of the investigation. The inspection requires an assessment of a sample of a minimum of ten prosecution case files, identified by the Crown Prosecution Service in each force.
- 3.4.3 The Cambridgeshire VCIF inspection will be taking place on 7th and 8th April 2015. The inspection will result in a national thematic report, and 43 force reports, with the national thematic report due to be published in September 2015.

3.5 PEEL Efficiency Inspection

- 3.5.1 The HMIC inspection of the Constabulary's efficiency, as part of the PEEL programme, will be taking place on dates to be confirmed between 30th March 2015 and 11th June 2015.
- 3.5.2 The inspection will build on the Valuing the Police (VTP) inspections of the robustness of Forces' financial and workforce planning, but aims to go beyond how well forces have met the spending review challenge into wider questions of efficiency and productivity. HMIC has added a focus on how well forces understand demand, the way in which they match their services to meet that demand, the extent to which they understand the costs of those services and the link between those costs and the outcomes they are intended to produce.
- 3.5.3 The inspection methodology will continue to look at the robustness of police forces' workforce plans, particularly the medium and long-term effects of financial planning decisions on the capacity and capability of Forces.
- 3.5.4 The headline question that the inspection methodology will seek to answer is '*How efficient is the force at keeping people safe and reducing crime?*' This headline question is broken down into three core questions:
- How well does the force use its resources to meet its demand?
 - How sustainable and affordable is the workforce model?
 - How sustainable is the force's financial position for the short and long term?

4. Significant Operations

4.1 Christmas Drink Drive Campaign

4.1.1 Results from the Constabulary's Christmas drink drive campaign have been assessed, and show a significant reduction in the number of motorists caught driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. During December 2014, 75 drivers were arrested in Cambridgeshire, a 22% reduction on the previous year's campaign (2013). Throughout December, officers were out in force conducting drink and drug driving stop checks. This was supported by a social media campaign throughout the month encouraging the public to share the Constabulary's message that drink driving will not be tolerated.

4.2 Operation Shade

4.2.1 A major joint operation with Cambridgeshire County Council has been set up in Wisbech to proactively investigate possible child sexual exploitation. The Constabulary has assembled a specialist investigation team for the operation, headed by a Detective Chief Inspector, and consisting of a Detective Sergeant, four specially selected female officers, staff from Social Services and youth workers.

4.2.2 The operation will be investigating the exploitation of teenage girls –predominantly in the 13-15 age bracket – but will also consider the possible exploitation of young teenage boys, and gang and group activity.

5. Effective and Efficient Policing

5.1 Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Strategic Alliance Update

5.1.1 The Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioners and the respective Chief Constables gave agreement, at a meeting held on 22nd January 2015, to develop proposals to collaborate control rooms and crime recording functions following consideration of an outline business case.

5.1.2 The Public Contact Project Team will now progress towards a full business case to look at proposals to move to fewer locations, possibly one or two control rooms and crime recording locations, to support the three counties. The final location of the site(s) will form part of the detailed proposal and this will be presented to the Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables as part of a full business case in the spring of 2015.

5.2 Restorative Justice

5.2.1 A not for profit community interest company, Restorative Solutions, has been appointed by the Commissioner and the Constabulary, as a delivery partner to help develop restorative justice across Cambridgeshire in partnership with other agencies. The programme has been funded for an initial two-year period by the Ministry of Justice.

5.2.2 A Restorative Justice conference was hosted by the Commissioner on the 9th February 2015, which brought together delegates from agencies across the Eastern Region to understand how restorative justice can have a positive impact on victims and offenders in their communities.

5.2.3 Restorative Justice will be offered through a number of different models, from one-to-one conferences between the victim and offender to community conferencing. It enables to help repair the harm crime causes by allowing the victim or victims to explain to the offender the impact of their actions. It also enables the victim to understand why the offender behaved the way they did.

6. Operational Issues

6.1 Parkside Custody, Cambridge

6.1.1 Parkside Custody has reopened following the completion of the necessary work to allow the commencement of operations. The remaining work will be conducted as soon as possible and it is not anticipated that further closure will be required.

6.1.2 The capacity at Parkside Custody is now fixed at no more than 10 detainees at any one time. This is to ensure that staff can manage detainees in accordance with Police and Criminal Evidence Act, Authorised Professional Practice guidance and HMIC/Prisons expectations. This will be strictly adhered to, and includes bail returns and voluntary attendances.

6.1.3 As capacity at Parkside has been reduced by five, Huntingdon Custody will remain open on a 24/7 basis to ensure that there is sufficient capacity within the custody estate to cope with demand. Space in the custody estate will remain under constant review to ensure that the provision meets the demand.

7. Recommendation

7.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document	
Contact Officer	Chief Inspector Paul Ormerod, Corporate Development Department, Cambridgeshire Constabulary