



Home Office

Home Secretary

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Matthew Grove
Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside
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16 December 2015

Dear Matthew,

HMIC PEEL EFFICIENCY REPORT

Thank you for your detailed letter of 17 November regarding the recent HMIC PEEL Efficiency publication and other matters relating to HMIC's remit and functions.

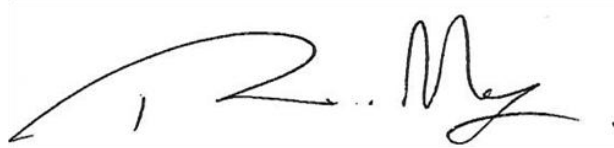
I have noted the concerns that you have raised. Like you, I believe that the Inspectorate is a vital part of the accountability system for policing. HMIC plays an important role in ensuring that reliable, independent information is available to the public.

I am clear that it is for Police and Crime Commissioners to hold the chief constable to account. It is for the Inspectorate to report independently on the performance of the force; HMIC does not set local priorities and has no role in setting force targets.

The development of the PEEL programme represented a radical shift in the way that HMIC operates, moving away from reporting on specific thematic issues and instead reporting on the performance of every force each year. The PEEL programme has ensured that clear judgments on the force's performance are made public. I believe this is right; the public must understand how their force is performing to be in a position to hold chief constables and PCCs to account.

I do, however, agree that the context provided in inspection reports is of central importance. Inspections can only ever report on performance at a specific point in time and it is important that this is reflected accordingly.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Humberside Police and Crime Panel, Sir Thomas Winsor, HMI Mike Cunningham and Keith Vaz MP.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. May', with a large, sweeping initial 'T' and a stylized 'M'.

The Rt Hon Theresa May MP