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REPORT TO:	STRATEGIC SCRUTINY MEETING
DATE:	September 2021
TITLE:	HMICFRS Inspection Update
REPORT BY:	Chief Inspector Jill Halliwell

Lancashire Constabulary will undergo a HMICFRS Police Efficiency, Effectiveness and Legitimacy (PEEL) Inspection for 2021/22. The main Inspection will occur in May 2022 but HMICFRS will be in force doing preparatory inspection work and field work from September onwards. They will be reviewing the Force Management Statement in the coming months and requesting a significant document return which will be administered by Corporate Development.

The Constabulary will be inspected and graded against the PEEL Assessment Framework (PAF) which consists of 12 questions (divided into numerous sub questions). This was circulated to business leads and Chief Officers in June 2021 when it was first released by HMICFRS. Business leads were required to complete a self-assessment for every PAF question relating to their areas of responsibility using the PEEL standard definitions (Outstanding, Good, Adequate, Requires Improvement, Inadequate). They were required to provide a rationale to support their grading in each case. The purpose of this self-assessment was to establish the current force position in relation to the HMICFRS Inspection standards but also to provide a framework which could be used going forward to identify the areas of work where progress was required and also where it was considered that the force was performing well.

A new HMICFRS governance process was established in force in July 2021. The purpose was two-fold. Firstly to review, drive and consolidate progress against the PAF question set in readiness for the PEEL Inspection (using the self-assessment as a bench mark), but also to monitor progress in relation to evidencing the completion of all HMICFRS outstanding recommendations (causes for concern, areas for improvement (AFIs) and recommendations). The new governance process consists of 4 Assessment Boards chaired by Chief Officers (ACC/ ACO). These culminate with an overarching HMICFRS Governance Board Meeting chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable with each Chief Officer and the appropriate business leads reporting updates from their respective Assessment Boards to the main board. The Boards are as follows:

- Organisational Assessment Board chaired by ACC Lawson
- Operational Assessment Board chaired by ACC Dawson
- Service User Assessment Board chaired by ACC Mackenzie
- Organisational Efficiency Assessment Board chaired by ACO Cosh

Any business areas identified as 'risk', or areas graded as 'adequate' or lower on the self-assessment are reviewed and monitored by the appropriate Assessment Boards which require 'deep dive' presentations to be delivered which are focussed on selected business areas.

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Lancashire Constabulary will undergo its Victim Services Assessment (VSA) which is part of the PEEL Inspection at the end of February. The inspection will involve reviewing a sample of crimes from 'cradle to grave' which involves a thorough review of the quality of each area as follows.

- Call handling
- Resource and deployment
- Crime Screening
- Investigations
- Outcome

In readiness for the VSA Inspection an extensive audit tool and programme has been developed to enable the Constabulary to monitor its performance in the above areas. Quality Management Sergeants who are now attached to Response Teams in Basic Command Units BCUs, and force auditors have commenced the auditing work in September.

On 14th March 2022 PEEL specialist teams will come into force to gather evidence in relation to 'Firearms' and 'Efficiency'. This work will last approximately 5 days. The main PEEL inspection which will involve any additional and final field work focussing on areas identified over the months prior to May, will commence on the 9th May 2022 and will last for a period of 4 weeks.

In further readiness for all aspects of our HMICFRS Inspection this year, the force will benefit from a mock PEEL inspection by colleagues from Humberside Police which, will take place early October over a 3-week period. This is a part of reciprocal arrangement and Lancashire Constabulary will undertake a mock PEEL inspection in Humberside later in the year.

To take full advantage of this Corporate Development are identifying the most appropriate business areas to be inspected during the mock PEEL and these will be agreed by the Chief Officer Team. Methodology will include a review of documentation and case files, interviews and focus groups.