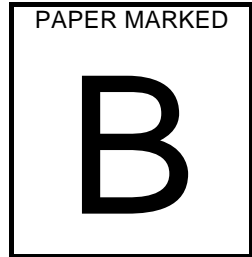


LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY



Meeting **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Date **THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2010 – 2.00 P.M.**

Report of **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Subject **POLICE AUTHORITY INSPECTION**

Purpose of Report

1. This report provides information concerning the inspection of Leicestershire Police Authority by the Audit Commission and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), and indicates those matters arising in the Inspection which are pertinent to this Committee's terms of reference.

Commentary

2. A full report regarding the process of Inspection of this Authority is being presented to the full Authority meeting on 26 January 2010. At that meeting members will be invited to approve an Improvement Plan to address the issues arising in the Inspection Report.
3. The Inspection Report, which indicates that the Authority is performing adequately overall, was published on Friday 15 January on the joint inspectorates' website. It is now available on the Authority website at <http://www.leics-pa.police.uk/files/library/20100115-web-version-report-final.pdf>
4. The key messages in the report concerning matters falling within the remit of this Committee are set out below. Of course, one of the main issues was strengthening linkages so that information coming before a Committee is utilised for all the relevant Authority activities.
5. In the section on setting strategic direction and priorities, a strength identified by the Inspectors was that the "Authority ensures high professional and ethical standards are set for itself and the Constabulary". It further identified as strengths that the "Authority manages an active Independent Custody Visitors Scheme (ICVS) to scrutinise the welfare of detainees; information passed to the Constabulary can be used to monitor custody provision and processes [and that the]... Professional Standards Committee oversees both the ICVS and the handling by the Constabulary of formal complaints against individual officers as well as 'direction and control' issues".
6. In the section on Performance Scrutiny, the Inspectors found as an area for improvement "the Authority does not provide systematic robust challenge to

hold the Chief Constable to account for the Constabulary's delivery of objectives, priorities and quality outcomes". They added that "the Constabulary is not compared with top performing forces outside its Most Similar Group".

7. In the Engagement section the Inspectors cite as an area for improvement that the "Authority could strengthen its analysis of issues that most improve the public's confidence in policing [such as] results from CDRP, LPU and other partners' consultation work, learning from complaints, the custody visitors' scheme and call centre contacts". They added that "a 'silo' approach exists to reviewing service accessibility through data on complaints, stop and search activity and public satisfaction with policing".
8. Members will want to consider these aspects when addressing issues elsewhere on this agenda.

Recommendation

9. Members are invited to discuss the content of this report.

Implications

Financial: none. Legal: none. Diversity: none. Risk Management: inspection results are mentioned in our Risk Register – a poor inspection report can absorb resources and affect reputation.

Background Papers

None.

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