



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
for Leicestershire

Prevention | Partnership | Protection

Our ref: OPCC/1761/18

Date: 09 April 2018

Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP, Home Secretary

E-mail sent to privateoffice.external@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Home Secretary,

Re: PEEL Effectiveness Report, Published 22 March 2018

Further to the publication of this final report in the PEEL inspections for the 2017/18 year, I am delighted to inform you that Leicestershire was rated 'Good'.

This consistent assessment of the effectiveness of Leicestershire Police illustrates that it is clearly a high-performing force when it comes to keeping people safe and reducing crime. In my view people living and working in the county should be proud of its officers and staff.

This latest report from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) endorses my view that the force is now one of the best in England and Wales. The report found that Leicestershire has fewer crimes, fewer incidents of antisocial behaviour and fewer incidents of domestic abuse than the national average.

Inspectors rated the force 'good' at keeping people safe and reducing crime, saying it had made good progress since a previous inspection two years ago and that the 'direction of travel' was positive.'

The report acknowledged that Leicestershire has made 'significant changes to improve the overall quality of the service it provides for people who are affected by crime, particularly those who might be vulnerable.'

These include reshaping its workforce to speed up investigations, strengthening accountability and improving the quality of victim contact.



The report also found that:

- The force is fully committed to identifying and helping vulnerable people
- Victims of domestic abuse are receiving a better service from the force

The report reflects the professionalism and dedication of Leicestershire's officers, staff and volunteers. A series of major incidents combined with the real and present national terrorism threat, the changing nature of criminality and an increase in demand for services really piled the pressure on capacity this year, but they have never given up. We are fortunate to have one of the best police forces in the country, where officers and staff work tirelessly to keep our communities safe and reduce crime.

This is no accident. What Leicestershire is demonstrating, is that with the right leadership, the right people and the right ideas, forces can, despite reduced funding, provide a quality service to the citizens they serve.

The force's new digital hub which deals with cyber-crimes - is a perfect example.

The hub was described by HMICFRS as a very effective way of tackling online child sexual exploitation. It is also responsible for reducing waiting times for the examination of evidence from computers and mobile devices.

I was also delighted to see that the Inspectors found that victims of domestic abuse now receive a better service from the force. HMICFRS credit this improvement to Leicestershire working more closely with partner agencies, devoting more staff who have been trained to carry out safeguarding and an increase in multi-agency meetings to consider high-risk cases.

I believe that this report is reassuring for the public and rewarding for the officers, staff and partners who have worked so hard to deliver this excellent result.

Naturally, if you wish to discuss any point in further detail I would be very pleased to so do.

*You are,
Willy Bach*

Lord Willy Bach
Police and Crime Commissioner