Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey



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Response from Kevin Hurley, Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey to the HMIC report on the Efficiency strand of PEEL

I thank HMIC for producing this important report and recognising the challenges that are facing the police nationally and in Surrey with reduced budgets and increasingly complex demands. HMIC quite rightly identified that at the time of inspection Surrey Police did have a sustainable financial plan but that it hadn't at the time fully assessed and understood the changes in policing demand or put plans in place to address that demand.

As HMIC are aware and have recognised in the report, plans were at the early stages of development at the time of inspection. Earlier this month I received a briefing from the Chief Constable on the Policing in Your Neighbourhood (PiYN model). Surrey Police have also developed a Business Plan and these two plans combined provide a much more sound basis for demand management and workforce modelling. I was disappointed that at the time of inspection Surrey police were not at a stage where they understood their future plans, but I am pleased to see that those plans are now in development.

In addition, Surrey Police, along with other forces in the South East, is currently in the process of procuring a new Enterprise Resources Planning (ERP) system. This will provide the IT systems to allow data to be captured in regard to workforce and resource planning.

These plans put Surrey Police in a much better position to meet budgetary constraints, however, we shouldn't underestimate the challenge facing us over the next few years to continue to make savings whilst responding to increases in reports of complex crimes such as rape, domestic violence, child abuse and cybercrime. The exponential increases in public protection related crimes could limit Surrey Police's ability to meet the Police and Crime Plan priorities to put victims at the centre of the criminal justice system and to take a zero tolerance approach towards those who commit such crimes.



I will continue to closely scrutinise the Chief Constable's plans to improve in this area of policing.

Finally, I am pleased to see mention of the close working between the Surrey OPCC and Surrey Police on financial planning and the alignment to the Police and Crime Plan.

