



Lincolnshire POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

SAFER TOGETHER

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Date: April 2023

HMI Roy Wilsher,
HMICFRS
6th Floor Globe House,
89 Ecclestone Square,
London,
SW1V 1P

Dear Roy,

Subject: **HMICFRS – PEEL Inspection of Lincolnshire Police 2021-22** (Published 17th March 2023).

I present my comments in response to the above report within the meaning of s55 (5) of the Police Act 1996. This letter will be uploaded to the HMICFRS inspection portal and published on my website.

I value the findings of the inspection report as they provide a detailed assessment of force performance measured across the criteria as set out in the PEEL inspection framework 2021-22.

I am heartened that HMICFRS has highlighted important areas of innovative practice found in the force such as the Blue Light collaboration, a comprehensive safeguarding network, problem solving initiatives and a proactive approach to safeguarding vulnerable fraud victims. This is testament to the creativity, hard work and dedication of officers and staff striving to provide the best service with the resources available and the historically low levels of funding that you refer to in the report.

However, on considering the whole report, I was left feeling somewhat frustrated at the limitations of the PEEL framework and its inability to sufficiently take account of the wider operating context and important details surrounding the developmental journey the force has undertaken since its previous PEEL inspection. In effect this has, in my opinion, undervalued the genuine achievements of the force and produced a relatively narrow 'snapshot' in time against which to judge the force's overall performance.

A particular case in point was the mammoth task required to transition from a 10-year commercial contract to an in-house operating model. This huge programme of work was completed on time and with minimal additional resource whilst ensuring the maintenance of an effective and efficient police service for the communities of Lincolnshire – An impressive achievement by any measure.

With that said, I read with interest the recommendations and 'areas for improvement' identified in the report and I should like to confirm that these will play a primary role in shaping my approach to holding the chief constable to account for the performance of the force.

The remedial actions required to resolve the issues raised in the report have been placed into a bespoke 'action plan' by the force, and I will monitor the force's progress against their plan along with all previous HMICFRS inspection findings. A copy of this action tracking document is also regularly scrutinised by our Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC).

I remain committed to supporting and challenging the Chief constable to drive the changes required with the aim of enhancing the policing service experienced by Lincolnshire communities and the wider public.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal line at the end, all enclosed within a large, thin oval border.

Marc Jones

Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire