



**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Constable

**Date:** 24 July 2014

## HMIC UPDATE

### 1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to present an update to the board on two recently published HMIC reports relating to the Strategic Policing Requirement.

### 2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Board note the contents of the paper.

### 3. Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR)

3.1 This inspection examined how well police forces have established the arrangements to counter the five national threats as identified within the SPR (terrorism, organised crime, public order, civil emergency and large-scale cyber incident).

3.2 It was based on data and documentary evidence provided by all 43 police forces from July 2013 and included supporting fieldwork conducted in 18 forces and in nine Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCs). Cambridgeshire were one of the 18 forces who were inspected as part of the fieldwork phase of this inspection.

3.3 A total of three national reports were produced as a result of this inspection. The first, published in April 2014, covered the arrangements that forces have in place to meet all the threats within the SPR.

3.4 The initial report concluded that:

- Chief constables are having regard to the SPR;
- A clearly articulated approach to the SPR by the leadership of the police service in England and Wales was lacking;

- The police response to the cyber threat is the least well developed amongst the five national threats; and
- Collective leadership was needed to secure the required level of preparedness to respond to the national threats.

It included a series of recommendations intended for: chief constables and PCCs; the Home Office; the College of Policing; and the National Crime Agency.

3.5 In June 2014, a further two reports were published which provided a more in-depth examination into the public order and cyber elements of the SPR.

3.6 These additional reports do not make any additional recommendations beyond those already contained in the first report.

#### **4. SPR – Threats to Public Order**

4.1 The first of the two subsequent reports published on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2014 was entitled “A report of how police forces in England and Wales deal with threats to public order” and examined how well the police service has met the requirements of the Strategic Policing Requirement in relation to the threat to public order.

4.2 The report assesses the capacity, capability, consistency and consistency of the national police response to a major public order incident.

4.3 The report concluded that in terms of capacity, Chief Constables understand their role to provide Police Support Units (PSUs) to respond to public disorder across force boundaries and to make a contribution to the national requirement of 297 PSUs.

4.4 It further identified that police forces understand the capabilities they are required to have in relation to public order and this was assisted by the fact that all forces had completed the College of Policing capability framework.

4.5 HMIC found that consistency was strongest in police regions where PSUs from constituent forces train and exercise together, such as within the Strategic Alliance of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire.

4.6 Finally, in relation to the connectivity, HMIC concluded that that chief constables are co-operating with the arrangements for cross-boundary mobilisation.

#### **5. SPR – Large Scale Cyber Incident**

5.1 This is the newest of the national threats to require a national response by the police service. A large-scale cyber incident could be caused by either the aggregation of individual cyber-crimes or the commission of a single attack.

5.2 HMIC concluded that Chief Constables are having regard to the SPR but in relation to the threat of a large scale cyber incident, the preparedness of the police is still in the very early stages of development.

5.3 While HMIC found that forces are not yet able to demonstrate that they understand their roles in tackling this threat, they found evidence that work is underway across the Home Office, police and National Crime Agency which should help provide the

clarity that is needed about the capacity and capability to be put in place to respond to the threat effectively.

- 5.4 In terms of the capability of the police service to respond to such incidents, HMIC found that forces are not yet able to effectively identify or understand the threat, risk and harm posed by cyber-crime and there is more to be done across all of the agencies involved.
- 5.5 With regards to the consistency of response, HMIC found that the National Cyber Crime Unit (NCCU) and the College of Policing have started putting measures in place to achieve consistency in the arrangements put in place to respond to this threat.
- 5.6 Finally HMIC identified that while forces cooperated with the National Crime Agency's tasking arrangements, there was a lack of connectivity between intelligence systems that prevented effective sharing of information and intelligence.

## 6 Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Board note the contents of this paper.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

<b>Source Document (s)</b>	Strategic Policing Requirement: An inspection of the arrangements that police forces have in place to meet the Strategic Policing Requirement.  Strategic Policing Requirement: An inspection of how police forces in England and Wales deal with threats to public order.  Strategic Policing Requirement: An inspection of how police forces in England and Wales deal with threats of a large-scale cyber incident (including criminal attack)
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