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Office of the
**Police & Crime
Commissioner**
West Yorkshire

My Reference: OPCC/MBW/JAD

Your Reference:

25 November 2016

The Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DP

Dear Home Secretary

HMIC Response – West Yorkshire Police PEEL Efficiency Inspection 2016

I am writing to you in response to the HMIC PEEL Efficiency assessment for West Yorkshire, which reported in November 2016.

Firstly, I would like to welcome the three GOOD gradings that West Yorkshire Police received which I'm sure you will agree is testament to the hard work that has been put in to ensuring our police service is operating efficiently in these difficult financial times. I also find it encouraging that HMIC made no specific recommendations for improvement which I'm sure will reassure our communities and go some way to making them feel safer.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the wider work that has taken place in West Yorkshire Police for you below:

- West Yorkshire Police have been able to begin recruiting externally for the first time in some years. This will allow us to replenish some of the numbers lost and gradually rebuild our workforce. Our recent recruitment campaigns have been massively successful in attracting a high calibre of individual and our added emphasis on positive action will enable us to build a workforce more representative of the communities that it serves.
- Managing demand – Extensive work has been undertaken by West Yorkshire Police to ensure that the operating model remains fit for purpose for the future and the growing operational challenges including Cyber Crime, Child Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking. The dedicated teams that were set up through the use of short term reserves were built into the base budget for 2016/17 and beyond to ensure that these key challenges were appropriately resourced and aligned. Analysis of our demand is carried out on a quarterly basis and I challenge and support the Chief Constable around this through our Quarterly Performance process.

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- As noted in the HMIC Inspection report, West Yorkshire Police is continually looking for new ways to improve the productivity of its workforce. One such example is the development and use of mobile handheld devices which have been rolled out across the frontline. These essentially allow our frontline staff to be deployed more efficiently, access data directly through the device rather than by using the control rooms, and ultimately spend more time out in our communities than in police stations.

All in all, I am pleased with the grading that HMIC has given West Yorkshire Police and the progress being made, however we will not become complacent and I will continue to work with the Chief Constable to ensure that we are continually looking for ways to improve our services in the most efficient ways.

I hope you have found this feedback useful.

Yours sincerely



Mark Burns-Williamson
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire

Copied to:

Chief Constable Dee Collins – West Yorkshire Police