

Agenda Item 05

JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE
25th June 2026

HMICFRS Update

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 **To provide members of the Committee with oversight of HMICFRS Inspection activity and recommendations**

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 WMP continues to operate under the HMICFRS *default phase of monitoring*. We have one remaining Cause of Concern for Investigations with two open recommendations that are specific to outcomes, that we continue to address ahead of our 25/27 PEEL assessment programme.

As part of PEEL 25/27 HMICFRS have observed a number of Strategic and Operational meetings together with some reality testing and interviews as part of their evidence gathering.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS, CAUSES OF CONCERN and AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- 3.1 Since the last JAC there has been one published report resulting in recommendations for WMP. The report is a spotlight report titled '*The policing response to the investigation of online child sexual abuse and the management of registered sex offenders*' it was published on 15/04/2026 and gave all forces 9 recommendations.
- 3.2 The force continues to concentrate its efforts upon our cause of concern and outstanding recommendations and AFI's held on the HMICFRS portal under the direction of our DCC through their HMICFRS Oversight Board; held on a monthly basis.

Open recommendations / Areas for Improvement:

Report Year	Previous JAC report	Total Number Open
2022	2	2
2023	11	5
2024	12	6
2025	25	22
2026		9
Total	50	44

4 INSPECTION ACTIVITY

4.1 Since the last JAC, we continue to be undergoing inspection activity under PEEL. There have been no other inspections taking place.

4.2 Forthcoming inspection activity

PEEL 2025/27: key dates

Formal inspection window for PEEL 25/27 began week commencing 8th September 2025 whereby any observations, interviews, reality testing, and focus groups taking place post this date fall within the evidence window.

We received formal notification of our inspection on 12th January 2026 which will culminate with two weeks in force during July 2026.

9th March 2026 we received formal notification of our Quality Service Review (QSR) audit.

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