

**HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY
PEEL: POLICING LEGITIMACY 2016: AN INSPECTION
OF CHESHIRE CONSTABULARY
RESPONSE OF DAVID KEANE, POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR CHESHIRE**



I welcome Her Majesty's Inspectors' report, published 6 December 2016, which has assessed Cheshire Constabulary as good in all areas of legitimacy.

The legitimacy of a police service is crucial in ensuring the public have confidence in local policing and is fundamental to the principle of policing by consent. Therefore, it is very positive to see that Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) as part of their 2016 inspections have assessed Cheshire Constabulary as having a good understanding of the capacity and capability of its leadership at all levels.

Residents will be pleased to read that their police service is good at treating people with fairness and respect, behaving ethically and lawfully and that this is demonstrated by the way the Constabulary treats its workforce and its concern for welfare and wellbeing. It is also positive to note that the Constabulary have been found to seek feedback and challenge, carrying out targeted work with communities which have in the past had less trust in the police. I welcome the HMIC recognition of the work that Constabulary is undertaking to increase the diversity of its workforce and its leadership but there is more to be done and as outlined in my Police & Crime Plan this is an area of focus to ensure Cheshire has a police service fit for the future.

Whilst there are no specific recommendations for the Constabulary, the Inspectorate make some observations where improvements can be made, and I will be maintaining close oversight to ensure that any areas for improvement are acted upon.

HMIC have again found the Constabulary to be a well performing police service and I would like to thank all the members of our police family – officers, staff and volunteers, for their hard work and dedication in keeping us safe.