



HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY PEEL: POLICING EFFICIENCY 2017: AN INSPECTION OF CHESHIRE CONSTABULARY RESPONSE OF DAVID KEANE, POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR CHESHIRE

I once again welcome Her Majesty's Inspectors report, published 9 November 2017, which has rated Cheshire Constabulary as being good in the efficiency with which it keeps people safe and reduces crime. I am pleased that the Constabulary has been assessed as maintaining a good understanding of demand and is assessed as good in its use of resources to manage demand.

Residents of Cheshire should be particularly pleased to note that the Constabulary is assessed as being outstanding in its planning for future demand and has been highly praised for innovation in predicting likely future demand and sound budgeting.

The Inspectorate have recognised the investment that has and is being made into IT solutions which enable the service to operate in a more efficient and effective way. It is satisfying to read the praise for the excellent partnership and collaboration relationships that have been developed with other police services and I was pleased to note the praise for our innovative work with Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service which is realizing tangible benefits.

Furthermore the recognition from the Inspectorate that the Constabulary is very well placed for the future and has sound financial plans which include making investments to continue to make savings in the future through the management of amongst other things estates is welcome as it has been a key priority for my work with the Constabulary leadership team.

Independent reviews like this are essential to our evolution as a police service, and ongoing improvement is a continuous process for us all.

Despite the changing landscape and resource pressures we're facing, the report outlines that Constabulary is continuing to perform incredibly well. This is a tremendous achievement when you consider that the Constabulary and its fantastic team of officers and staff have managed to attain largely good or outstanding feedback against a backdrop of severe budget cuts since 2010, some £57million.

We will have to fight hard to retain this achievement and retain the quality of our frontline services across the county. With potential further budget cuts on the horizon, we need to avoid the thin blue line being stretched too far. It will mean the Constabulary faces some difficult decisions around how it will police the county in the coming years.

As always 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Keane', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Keane
Police & Crime Commissioner