Summary of Recent External Inspection Reports

Paul Godden, Corporate Development Department

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide members with details of recent external inspection reports and an overview of the process in place to manage the Force's response to inspection recommendations and findings.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The following national inspection reports have been published by HMIC since the last Joint Independent Audit Committee:
 - HMI Assessment Northumbria Police
 - PEEL Leadership Statement 2015 Northumbria Police
 - State of Policing: The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales
 2015 National Report
 - Delivering Justice in the Digital Age National Thematic
 - The Tri-Service Review of the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles – National Thematic
 - <u>Joint Targeted Area Inspection of the Multi-agency Response to Abuse and</u>
 Neglect in South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Partnership Report
 - Missing Children: Who Cares? The Police response to Missing and Absent Children – National Thematic
- 2.2 The Corporate Development Department acts as the central liaison point for all HMIC related matters.
- 2.3 All HMIC inspection reports and other external inspection reports are considered by Chief Officers. A project lead is appointed to consider inspection findings and prepare an action plan in response to any recommendations and areas for improvement identified. These action plans are agreed by the Executive Board and by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 2.4 Project teams are appointed to support implementation of the action plan, as appropriate. Progress against agreed action plans is reported to the Strategic Management Board.
- 2.5 There is one exception from the previous inspections reported in the current period relating to the development of crime recording at source (or front-end crime recording) as part of the Crime Data Integrity inspection. Implementation is scheduled for the autumn of 2016. This project requires substantial changes to force IT systems, and because of existing IT projects, including a significant change to the Incident Management System, there was not capacity to commence the crime recording at source work sooner. Options to delay other work or bring in extra resources were considered, but were not practicable. Consideration was also given to alternative stop-gap solutions for a form of crime recording at source without the supporting IT. These alternatives had flaws that outweighed the benefits so the decision was made not to adopt a stop-gap.

3. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 There are no additional financial considerations arising from this report.

4. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 There are no legal considerations arising from the content of this report.

5. EQUALITY CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 There are no equality implications arising from the content of this report.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 HMIC expects that progress is made in response to the recommendations and uses progress against previous recommendations to assess risk when considering future inspection activity.
- 6.2 The Force prepares action plans in response to HMIC findings, as appropriate, and delivery is monitored at the Force's Strategic Management Board.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Committee is asked to note the recent inspection reports.