



Agenda Item 06

**JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE
27 March 2025**

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 specific to outcomes that we continue to address ahead of any re-inspection during the 25/27 PEEL assessment programme.
- 2.2 We have been notified of our National Child Protection Inspection which is due to commence on 31st March 2025 with HMICFRS in force for two weeks. Within the framework of this inspection are 5 pillars; Leadership, Partnership Working, Initial Response, Risk assessment & referral, and Investigation. We have a number of workstreams in place to ensure our readiness for this inspection together with an agreed Improvement Plan following some significant self-assessment work across the force.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS, CAUSES OF CONCERN and AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- 3.1 Since the last JAC there has been 1 report published resulting in recommendations that are to be co-ordinated through NPCC on behalf of police forces.
- 3.1.1 An inspection of the police response to the public disorder in July and August 2024. Tranche 1: capacity and capability, co-ordination and mobilisation, and well-being. (Published 18/12/24)

Police forces must be better prepared to plan for and tackle serious violence and disorder, the police inspectorate has warned, following a review of the police's response to disorder in the summer.

<https://hmicfrs.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/publications/police-response-to-public-disorder-in-july-and-august-2024-tranche-1>

- 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 his HMIC Oversight Board which is held on a monthly basis.

Total submissions for closure since change of HMIC process (August 2023) across all portfolios:

Closed (since Aug 2023)	Total Number submitted	Total Number Open
AF1 Lv3	15	17
AF1 Lv2	12	9
Recommendation Lv4	18	-
Recommendation Lv3	34	9
Recommendation Lv2	95	27
Total	174 (+4)	62

4 INSPECTION ACTIVITY

4.1 Forthcoming inspection activity

- i) w/c 10th March 2025 – Youth out-of-court disposals: a joint inspection of the effectiveness of the work to divert children from the criminal justice system. We have been notified we will be 1 of 6 forces inspected. Specific focus on Solihull and Walsall.
- ii) w/c 31st March 2025 – National Child Protection Inspection. We were last inspected under this thematic in 2014. This is a two week inspection which includes Interviews, focus groups, reality testing and case file reviews.

CONTACT OFFICER

Name: T/CI Fiona Fletcher
Title: HMICFRS Force Liaison Officer