

Press Notice

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CPS Inspectorate Overall Performance Assessment of CPS South Yorkshire

HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HM CPSI) has today published their Overall Performance Assessment (OPA) of **CPS South Yorkshire**.

The OPA process provides a benchmark for each CPS Area's performance in fourteen key aspects of work. Each of the aspects is assessed as being excellent, good, fair or poor. The Area is then assessed on its overall performance in the light of these markings.

The overall performance assessment of **CPS South Yorkshire** was **excellent**.

The table below provides a breakdown of the assessed level of performance against the fourteen aspects:

Critical Aspects	Assessment
Pre-charge decision-making	3
Ensuring successful outcomes	3
Leadership	4
The service to victims and witnesses	3
Resource management	3
Other Defining Aspects	
Managing magistrates' courts cases	3
Managing Crown Court cases	3
Handling sensitive cases and hate crimes	3
Custody time limits	3
Disclosure	3
Presenting and progressing cases at court	3
Delivering change	3
Managing performance to improve	3
Securing community confidence	3

Some aspects have been categorised as critical, and these aspects are weighted differently to the other aspects in determining the overall performance of an Area. This is due to the significant impact that these aspects will have on the overall performance of a CPS Area.

It is to the credit of the work of managers and staff in CPS South Yorkshire that the Area has achieved good or excellent assessments across all aspects of performance and an overall assessment of excellent. This was one of only two in the twenty-two reports published today. The Area's performance is

good in all aspects of its casework. The casework is supported by good planning and business systems.

The Area has collaborated successfully with local criminal justice system partners in implementing substantial positive change. Structures are in place to monitor performance against targets and there are effective systems to achieve value for money. The benefits of the CPS taking over responsibility for charging are being realised. The proportion of wasteful ineffective trials is decreasing and the shared CJS targets for bringing offenders to justice have been exceeded. The service provided to victims and witnesses is generally good and case progression is improving.

The inspectorate has visited all 42 CPS Areas over a six month period in order to provide a benchmark from which future work can be informed. The inspectorate will use this information to determine where best to focus its resources in order to promote improvement within the CPS and the criminal justice system as a whole. It is also hoped that the CPA Areas, and CPS HQ, will use this information to address issues at local and national level where this is necessary.

Stephen Wooler CB, Chief Inspector of the CPS, said:

“The commitment of staff and Managers in CPS South Yorkshire in contributing strongly to the implementation of important initiatives aimed at improving the quality of criminal justice while maintaining high levels of casework performance is commendable. I am confident that the Area will build on this excellent achievement , seeking to maintain and improve this level of performance.”

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