



HMIC Inspection Plan 2011/12

For Consultation

August 2011
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About this consultation

Scope of the consultation

Topic of this consultation:	HM Inspectorate of Constabulary plan for 2011/12.
Scope of this consultation:	To seek views on HMIC's plan.
Geographical scope:	England and Wales.
Impact assessment (IA):	An IA will follow with the publication of the framework and plan.

Basic information

To:	This consultation is principally aimed at government bodies and law enforcement agencies although members of the public may wish to respond.
Duration:	Responses are requested within four weeks of date of issue.
Enquiries:	Enquiries about this consultation should be submitted to: haveyoursay@hmic.gsi.gov.uk
How to respond:	Responses can be submitted to: haveyoursay@hmic.gsi.gov.uk
Additional ways to become involved:	As this is a largely technical issue with specialist interests following discussions with those affected, this will be a purely written exercise.
After the consultation:	HMIC will consider responses in preparing the final plan which will be published later this year.

Background

Getting to this stage:	HMIC's role is set out in the Police Act 1996, subsequent amendments, regulations and the references set out in the footnotes contained within this document.
Previous engagement:	HMIC continually engages with government and the sector they regulate in order to inform their work programme.

HMIC's role and how to respond to this consultation

HMIC's role

HMIC inspects and reports on the efficiency and effectiveness of police forces and specified national police agencies. HMIC monitors trends and reveals the facts and opportunities for improvement, enabling the public and their elected representatives to hold forces to account.

How to respond

This is a consultation document and HMIC is seeking views on whether we have identified the right areas to inspect in our 2011/12 programme.

Please submit your answer to this question, together with any other comments, by email to haveyoursay@hmic.gsi.gov.uk, no later than **Wednesday 31 August 2011**. If you prefer, you can post responses to Steve Blake, Chief Operating Officer, HMIC, 6th floor Globe House, 89 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1PN.

If you have a complaint or comment about HMIC's approach to consultation, you can register this by emailing: haveyoursay@hmic.gsi.gov.uk

HMIC's proposed programme of work for 2011/12

1. Annual publication of crime and cost comparisons commencing in October 2011, principally based on comparison against self (emphasising the local context and local responsibilities) with national, metropolitan and similar shire comparisons available as background if required. Enabling the public to choose the data compared, accessible through www.police.uk.
2. Inspection of crime data integrity.
3. Examination of police plans for the CSR to assess impact on frontline services (crime fighting and police availability).
4. A baseline on collaboration (public and private sector) to identify emerging good practice and barriers.
5. Monitoring the programme to reduce bureaucracy and development of a gate-keeping role to limit the burden of regulation on the police sector.
6. A baseline on the strategic police requirement.
7. Joint inspections with other agencies as set out in the *Joint Inspection Business Plan 2011–13*.¹
8. Monitor police outcomes and inspect areas of exceptional risk or public interest (e.g. police integrity, public order, rape and use of undercover officers).
9. Publish the Chief Inspector's assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of policing in England and Wales for the year.
10. Inspection of national police agencies as agreed with those agencies (SOCA, HMRC, British Transport Police, Civil Nuclear Constabulary, MOD) and other forces (e.g. PS Northern Ireland and Royal Gibraltar Police).
11. Advice to the Home Secretary on Chief Constable applications (until April 2012) and, when required, involvement in senior / chief officer misconduct cases.
12. Subject to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill, advice to potential Police and Crime Commissioners.

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http://www.hmic.gov.uk/sitecollectiondocuments/business%20plans/bpl_cji_20110401.pdf

Annex A: Consultation Code

The Consultation follows wherever possible the Government's *Code of Practice on Consultation* – the criteria for which are set out below:

Criterion 1 – When to consult – Formal consultation should take place at a stage when there is scope to influence the policy outcome.

Criterion 2 – Duration of consultation exercises – Consultations should normally last for at least 12 weeks with consideration given to longer timescales where feasible and sensible.

Criterion 3 – Clarity of scope and impact – Consultation documents should be clear about the consultation process, what is being proposed, the scope to influence and the expected costs and benefits of the proposals.

Criterion 4 – Accessibility of consultation exercises – Consultation exercises should be designed to be accessible to, and clearly targeted at, those people the exercise is intended to reach.

Criterion 5 – The burden of consultation – Keeping the burden of consultation to a minimum is essential if consultations are to be effective and if consultees' buy-in to the process is to be obtained.

Criterion 6 – Responsiveness of consultation exercises – Consultation responses should be analysed carefully and clear feedback should be provided to participants following the consultation.

Criterion 7 – Capacity to consult – Officials running consultations should seek guidance in how to run an effective consultation exercise and share what they have learned from the experience.

The full Code of Practice on Consultation is available at:

<http://www.berr.gov.uk/whatwedo/bre/consultation-guidance/page44420.html>

Annex B: Responses: Confidentiality and disclaimer

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want other information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

HMIC will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

Other formats

You should also contact HMIC as set out on page 4 of this document should you require a copy of this consultation paper in any other format.