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**To: HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY POLICY BOARD**

**On: 26 January 2016**

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**Report by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

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**Heading: HM INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY, SCOTLAND – SCRUTINY PLAN  
2016-17**

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### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Scotland (HMICS) is reviewing their annual Scrutiny Plan to develop a planned inspection programme for 2016/17. An amended version of their 2015/16 Scrutiny Plan is being used as the basis for the review and is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Forensic Services, Cyber Crime, National Crime Recording, together with follow up work on both Stop & Search and Call Handling form a number of the planned inspections within the current proposed programme which runs from 2014 - 2017. HMICS are seeking the views of key stakeholders on the proposed inspections and any topical, high risk or emerging areas in policing that could be included within the 2015/16 annual inspection programme.
  - 1.2 Proposals for 2016/17 are consistent with the HMICS Corporate Strategy 2014-2017, which outlined their approach to scrutiny, together with their inspection framework. which the Council commented on in 2013. Plans for 2016/17 also include a number of areas that might also have been raised locally on the basis of the focus of scrutiny and discussions at a number of previous meetings of the Housing and Community Safety Policy Board - particularly the intention to revisit stop and search. Other issues which have relevance locally include cybercrime; counter corruption; and continuing the inspection of Police call handling services..
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### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Housing & Community Safety Policy Board notes the attached HMICS scrutiny proposals for 2016/17.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland, (HMICS) has a statutory role to report on the state, effectiveness and efficiency of both Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority. HMICS issued a consultation on their forward workplan 2014 – 17 in November 2013 and a response was submitted by the Council Chief Executive at that time. Since then each HMICS Annual Scrutiny Plan has included an appropriate focus on the issues highlighted in the Council's response and, as last reported on 25 August 2015, the attached annual inspection programme has maintained that focus.
  - 3.2 In accordance with their statutory obligation to keep this plan under review, HMICS have recently refreshed it to take account of necessary changes to scrutiny activities. The latest updated HMICS Scrutiny Plan 2015-16, was issued in December 2015.
  - 3.3 Scrutiny activity has focused around a rolling programme of Local Policing inspections together with thematic inspections and specific audit and assurance reviews. In addition HMICS have accommodated unplanned scrutiny activity as a result of ministerial direction and a specific request from the Scottish Police Authority. They are on schedule to have completed ten separate scrutiny reports during 2015-16, in addition to meeting ongoing commitment to joint scrutiny with the Care Inspectorate in relation to Children's Services.
  - 3.4 HMICS intend to continue with Local Policing inspections during 2016-17, and have already committed in principle to the scrutiny of Forensic Services, Cyber Crime and National Crime Recording, together with follow up work on both Stop & Search and Call Handling. HMICS have some capacity to address any topical, high risk or emerging areas in policing and would welcome views on proposals or on any other areas which may benefit from scrutiny during 2016-17.
  - 3.5 From a Renfrewshire perspective, local relationships with Police Scotland and with the Scottish Police Authority are good and the areas of thematic inspection activity that are set out in the current plan reflect the key areas of concern that may arise locally – particularly the intention to inspect in relation to cyber crime; counter corruption; revisit stop and search; and continue the inspection of call handling services.
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### **Implications of this Report**

1. **Financial** - none.
2. **HR and Organisational Development** – none.
3. **Community Planning**

**Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire** – The Community Safety Partnership contributes towards Renfrewshire being a safe and secure place for those living, working or visiting the area, using intelligence led joint tasking arrangements.

**A Greener Renfrewshire** – none

**Renfrewshire forum for Empowering Communities** – none

4. **Legal** – none.
5. **Property/Assets** – none.
6. **Information Technology** – none.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** – The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health and Safety** – none.
9. **Procurement** – none.
10. **Risk** – none.
11. **Privacy Impact** – none.

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**List of Background Papers** - none

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**Author** Oliver Reid, Head of Public Protection  
**e-mail:** [oliver.reid@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:oliver.reid@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk)