

RESPONSES BY THE PCC TO HMIC INSPECTIONS OF MERSEYSIDE POLICE

INSPECTION DETAILS

Title of Inspection: Missing children: who cares? The police response to missing and absent children

OPCC Log Number: 7550

Date Inspection Published: 23 March 2016

Deadline for Response: 9th May 2016

Type of Inspection:

<input type="checkbox"/> Merseyside specific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National
<input type="checkbox"/> Follow up	<input type="checkbox"/> Thematic
<input type="checkbox"/> Partner Inspection	

Is Merseyside Police quoted? Yes No

Recommendations? National Local

FORCE RESPONSE:

This national thematic report highlights a number of generic issues relating to missing and absent children. In response, and bearing in mind the significant risks associated with children who are missing, the Force will fully consider HMIC's findings and take the necessary action, where it is appropriate to do so. This will include addressing the generic recommendation applicable to all forces and acting upon any of the findings for which a recommendation has not been made, but may, nonetheless, be relevant to the Force. To ensure an appropriate and timely response, governance of our progress will be exercised by the Deputy Chief Constable.

PCC RESPONSE TO THE REPORT:

HMIC's inspection report *Missing children: who cares? The police response to missing and absent children* provides PCCs and Chief Constables with a valuable nationwide insight into current practices and areas of improvement for what is a significant issue.

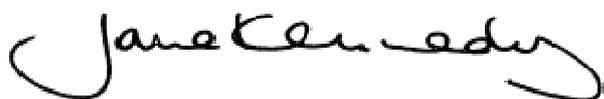
The potential dangers surrounding young people who are reported to the police as missing from home represents a major risk. This is, in part, why I have prioritised the protection of vulnerable people, including those missing from home, as a key objective within my Police and Crime Plan.

The recommendations captured within HMIC's report can hopefully go some way to ensuring a consistent standard in how police forces, the College of Policing, the Home Office and the National Police Chiefs' Council approach this issue.

HMIC's independent research and assessment of children missing from home draws conclusions from their PEEL inspections from 2015/16 for which Merseyside Police received three 'good' assessments from the inspectorate.

Recently I instructed my office to work with chief officers from Merseyside Police to reinforce the police's response to children missing from home. This work has resulted in the recruitment of a dedicated 'Missing From Home Co-ordinator' who will improve processes to be more efficient and effective.

I have asked the Force to ensure that information management processes are in place for children who go missing from home in line with HMIC's recommendation on this.



Jane Kennedy, Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner

DATE RESPONSE SENT: 11th May 2016

(Responses to be sent to sofs.section55responses@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk & PCC@hmic.gsi.gov.uk)