

The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the publication of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMICFRS) - PEEL spotlight report - The Hard Yards - Police-to-police collaboration (Dec 2020).

[The report can be found here](#)

For this report, HMICFRS assessed six police collaborations, investigating the process from agreement onwards. These case studies varied in scope and scale from highly ambitious strategic collaborations, such as the Seven Force Strategic Alliance (7F) and the All Wales collaboration, to more focused and specific projects, such as the North West Underwater Marine Unit. HMICFRS examined what they did well, and what didn't go so well. It considered why some collaborations succeeded and why some failed.

Nationally, forces are spending over a quarter of a billion pounds on collaborations every year. It is in police forces' interests to collaborate with other forces and other organisations, both on a local and a national scale. Collaboration done well can save money, reduce bureaucracy, and improve efficiency and effectiveness.

Collaborations allow forces to club together to provide specialist services that they couldn't provide individually, and they help forces to learn from best practice. Ultimately, collaborations can improve the service that forces give to the public.

However, as noted by HMICFRS, too many police collaborations are failing, or not giving the results they should, costing forces money, time and effort. Clearly, we need to continue to monitor all our collaborations to ensure they are achieving value for money.

Nottinghamshire Police is part of The East Midlands Criminal Justice Service (EMCJS) which is collaboration with three other forces (Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire). It creates and develops an integrated criminal justice service capable of providing operational support in all areas of criminal justice across the East Midlands. Our collaboration was one of the six inspected.

As stated by HMICFRS the initial purpose of this collaboration was to achieve a single technology system (platform) and a single senior management structure across the forces involved. These objectives have been achieved.

In this report, HMICFRS make two recommendations about what forces can do to collaborate successfully and productively one of which is for all Chief Constables to have in place an effective system to track the benefits of their collaborations, and they should use the methodology created by the NPCC, the College of Policing and the Home Office.

The Force will continue to use its dedicated 4ACTION database for tracking and responding to all HMICFRS recommendations and areas for improvement overseen by the Deputy Chief Constable. The Force also provides regular HMICFRS update reports to my Joint Audit and Scrutiny Panel (JASP) who provide additional scrutiny in these important areas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paddy Tipping'.

Paddy Tipping
Police and Crime Commissioner