

PCC and CC Force Inspection acknowledgement

Version Jan 2025

Force	Staffordshire
Police and Crime Commissioner	Ben Adams
Temporary Chief Constable	Rebecca Riggs
Title of inspection	State of Policing: Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2024-2025
Published Date	10 th September 2025
Inspectorate	 HMICFRS Making communities safer
Summary of inspection	The main evidence for this report comes from our inspections. Between 1 April 2024 and 31 July 2025, we published 121 reports on the police service. Police forces and the Government are working hard to rebuild public confidence. In our inspections we identify where policing is strong and where it must be improved. We found that many forces were struggling to perform adequately in our question areas on responding to the public, investigating crime and protecting vulnerable people. In part, this is due to the high demands placed on forces that frequently exceed the resources they have available. But we also found that not all police forces were as well led, efficient, effective and sustainable as they could and should be. While forces have limited resources, we believe many could do better with the resources they have. Modern policing depends on the effective use of data and technology, yet many forces rely on outdated systems and struggle with poor data management. While science and technology have advanced rapidly, police forces haven't kept pace. Limited capital investment has contributed to this gap, and greater government support is needed. The way the funding is distributed still needs to change because it is outdated and unfair. And the absence of a capital grant for forces remains a major barrier to making some of the long-term investments that the police need. The Government also hasn't yet confirmed that it will allocate additional funding to support police reform. They must be sufficiently funded. Change is urgently needed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing
Grade	
Recommendations	No recommendations. So that the service has the time and opportunity to make the necessary changes, I have chosen not to make any recommendations in my 'State of Policing' report this year.
Areas for improvement	

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's acknowledgement

I welcome the publication of His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services' (HMICFRS) Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2024–25, which offers a timely and comprehensive overview of the challenges and opportunities facing policing across the country.

The report rightly acknowledges the improvements made across policing and highlights the critical importance of sustained investment and reform to secure lasting change. In Staffordshire, we are committed to delivering a modern, responsive and community-focused police service that reflects the priorities set out in my Police, Fire and Crime Plan.

This plan, developed in consultation with local residents and stakeholders, sets out clear priorities:

- A safer Staffordshire for all
- A responsive local policing presence
- Effective support for victims and witnesses
- Strong collaboration between police and fire services
- Transparent and accountable leadership

The HMICFRS report reinforces the need for continued focus on neighbourhood policing, digital innovation, and workforce wellbeing—all areas where Staffordshire Police is actively investing and evolving. I am particularly encouraged by the emphasis on leadership and culture, which aligns with our local efforts to build trust and confidence in policing through openness and integrity.

Staffordshire Police has made significant strides in improving service delivery, including the rollout of new technologies, enhanced officer training, and stronger community engagement. However, we recognise there is more to do. The findings of this report will inform our ongoing work to ensure that policing in Staffordshire remains efficient, effective and rooted in the needs of our communities.

I remain committed to working closely with the Chief Constable, local partners, and residents to deliver on our shared vision for a safer, stronger Staffordshire.