

HM INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY IN SCOTLAND

Annual statement of compliance 2023-2024

Public Services (Scotland) Act 2010

Section 31 reporting

(a) Expenditure incurred during the year	
	£
Public relations	5,440.56
Overseas travel	1,240.22
Hospitality and Entertainment	347.51
External consultancy	2,340.00

(b) Payments with a value in excess of £25,000	
Amount	nil
Date	
Payee	
Subject matter of payment	

(c) The number of individuals who received remuneration in excess of £150,000
nil

Section 32 reporting

Steps taken during the year
<p>(a) to promote and increase sustainable growth through the exercise of the functions.</p> <p>(b) to improve efficiency, effectiveness and economy in the exercise of the functions.</p>
<p>This statement applies to His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) with regard to the duty to:</p> <p>(a) 'promote and increase sustainable growth through the exercise of the functions'</p> <p>(b) 'improve efficiency, effectiveness and economy in the exercise of the functions'</p> <p>HMICS exists to look into the 'state, effectiveness and efficiency' of both Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority. HMICS also has the duty to ensure the Chief Constable and SPA meet the obligations in terms of best value and continuous improvement.</p> <p>HMICS aims to add value and strengthen public confidence in Scottish policing. HMICS identifies good practice that can be rolled out across Scotland and ensures scrutiny work is proportionate and that inspections are only conducted on what is necessary to achieve its statutory purpose. HMICS minimises the burden on those that are inspected and focuses activities through informed risk assessment to ensure scrutiny is effective and efficient.</p> <p>HMICS aligns scrutiny work to the needs of service users and co-operates with other scrutiny authorities. HMICS makes recommendations to improve experiences for service users and in support of the public sector equality duties.</p> <p>HMICS seeks to have effective processes for key areas of activity. These include scrutiny risk assessments, scrutiny framework and the introduction of an inspection framework. Through various methods for organisational continual improvement HMICS seek to enhance its effectiveness, efficiency and economy. The HMICS team intensively debrief activities, seek feedback from those who have been scrutinised, partners and others and use this to enhance processes and approach. This has resulted in a refreshed complaints handling process and a revitalised communications and engagement plan.</p>

Regarding environmental sustainability, HMICS has complied with its duty to report on actions taken to protect and enhance biodiversity, mainstream biodiversity, and research and monitor biodiversity in the 2021-23 period. HMICS is working with academic stakeholders to seek funding for research into the impact of climate change on policing.

HMICS is funded entirely by the Scottish Government in respect of staff, accommodation, equipment and other expenses and has a de facto shared services approach with the Scottish Government. HMICS also receives additional funding for joint inspection work from other public bodies.

Appendix Guidance

Public relations includes all external communications

- the cost of in-house and contracted staff and consultants.
- marketing
- PR campaigns
- media relations
- marketing research and evaluation
- branding and design
- promotional events
- external events
- conferences and exhibitions
- corporate communications
- sponsorship
- publications and printing
- digital communications
- advertising
- media planning.
- expenditure on external communications relating to the services which the public body provides.

Does not include internal communications, or recruitment advertising

Overseas travel includes

- travel to and from the United Kingdom
- the cost of hotels, conference fees, travel and subsistence during the overseas visit and any other related expenditure.

Hospitality and Entertainment should be interpreted widely and includes

- gifts (over £25)
- meals
- parties
- receptions
- tickets for or invitations to public, sporting, cultural or other events or other similar benefits to employees or third parties.

Does not include travel and subsistence costs and the reimbursement of expenses incurred in relation to service as an employee.

External consultancy includes professional services such as

- management consultancy
- IT consultancy
- financial consultancy
- construction or infrastructure related consultancy
- research and evaluation and policy development (including feasibility studies)

Does not include outsourcing or buying in technical or specialist services such as legal advice and representation or recruitment service