



Promoting improvements
in policing to make
everyone safer

HMIC Thematic inspection of the Royal Military Police (RMP) 2016

Terms of reference

Mandate

Legislation came into force on 4 June 2014 placing a statutory duty on the appointed Inspector or Inspectors of HMIC to inspect and report to the Secretary of State (Defence) on the independence and effectiveness of investigations carried out by each Service Police Force. The first statutory inspection of the RMP was conducted between October and December 2014.

Title

An inspection of investigations into deaths overseas.

Rationale

This theme focuses on an area which is necessary, unique and distinct to the RMP and has been a significant area of work, specifically during the Afghanistan campaign. Inspection and guidance in this area will provide a baseline and be highly beneficial for RMP investigative activity for future operations.

Terms of reference

The terms of reference for this inspection are to examine:

- (a) The effectiveness, oversight and governance of RMP investigations into overseas deaths, including third party reviews.
- (b) The mechanisms and structures in place that support RMP investigations into overseas deaths.
- (c) The effectiveness of RMP liaison and mutual support with other interested agencies including: the UK Coroner; host nation policing and governmental departments¹; Defence Safety Agency; the Service Prosecuting Authority; the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Cell (JCCC) and the military chain of command.

¹ Including jurisdictional issues.

(d) RMP engagement and support to bereaved individuals, to include liaison with MOD departments involved in casualty notification and aftercare (specifically the JCCC and the Army Incident Aftercare Support Cell).