

HMI Wendy Williams' assessment of Gloucestershire Constabulary – Transcript

Hello. I'm Wendy Williams and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Gloucestershire. I am one of five inspectors, and our role is to inspect police forces on behalf of the public. Each year we produce an annual assessment of how each force is performing.

I am satisfied with most aspects of the performance of Gloucestershire Constabulary in keeping people safe and reducing crime. However,

I have concerns about some aspects of the service provided by the force.

The force is generally effective in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour and it works closely with partner organisations in doing this. I am pleased the force has productively invested resources into operations to investigate child sexual exploitation offences. However, I am concerned about the standard of its crime investigations.

The force also needs a more consistent response to incidents involving the most vulnerable people, including domestic abuse victims and children.

I consider that improvements are required in respect of the force's understanding of, and response to, organised criminality.

I have been encouraged by the new ways of working that the force is developing, including the use of "Javelin" which is vulnerability mapping software, to identify demand better in major areas of risk, such as anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse.

The force is reshaping its operating model based on a comprehensive understanding of demand for its services. I am reassured these changes will be supported by a strong performance management structure and clear direction from the chief officer team.

I have been particularly impressed by the financial management of the force, and I am confident that the force is very well prepared to face its future financial challenges.

In the year ahead, I will be interested to see how the force improves its approach to domestic abuse, and how it manages children who go missing. I will also be interested to see how the force improves its understanding and response of serious and organised crime.