

HMI Mike Cunningham's assessment of Lancashire Constabulary – Transcript

Hello. I'm Mike Cunningham and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Lancashire. 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 congratulate Lancashire Constabulary on its performance in keeping people safe and reducing crime.

I am impressed by the way the force engages with the communities of Lancashire to understand their concerns, and by the way it works alongside partner organisations. The force's Early Action approach is an illustration of its emphasis on tackling the root cause of problems. The force has made good progress in putting clear processes in place to identify repeat and vulnerable victims. It makes accurate assessments of the risks they face and its response to them is consistent.

The quality of crime investigation is generally good and the force works well to stop re-offending.

I am very impressed by the force's approach to financial management. It has achieved its planned savings and is exceptionally well prepared to face future financial challenges. It has a good understanding of the main elements of demand and uses its resources well.

I welcome the positive and supportive culture that has been instilled throughout the force by the continuing commitment of its senior leaders. The force gives careful consideration to the wellbeing of the workforce.

Lancashire Constabulary uses an extensive and effective range of online methods to engage with the people of Lancashire. The force seeks and identifies improved practice from elsewhere and works with its partners to use new methods to predict, understand and prevent problems of local public concern.

In the year ahead I will be particularly interested to see how the force improves compliance with the Best Use of Stop and Search scheme and develops more accurate recording of Taser use. I'll also be interested to see how the integration of public services across Lancashire progresses.