



Promoting improvements
in policing to make
everyone safer

HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Hampshire Constabulary – Transcript

I am satisfied with most aspects of Hampshire Constabulary's overall performance. However, there are some areas that the force needs to improve on to provide a consistently good service.

I am pleased with Hampshire Constabulary's approach to preventing crime and tackling anti-social behaviour. The force is to be commended for its commitment to neighbourhood policing.

This year I have expressed some deep concerns about Hampshire Constabulary's practices relating to some victims of domestic abuse. Since the inspection the force has taken active steps to address its falling arrest rates for perpetrators of domestic abuse, and is working hard to understand why nearly two thirds of investigations into domestic abuse, do not progress because the victim is said to not support police action.

I am also reassured that the force has suspended its practice of only speaking to some victims of domestic abuse over the phone rather than visiting them to make sure they and their children are safe.

However, the force is working well with partner organisations to protect other vulnerable victims.

The force tackles serious and organised crime well. It is particularly good at involving neighbourhood teams in activity to disrupt organised crime groups. I am also pleased that Hampshire Constabulary has maintained its comprehensive understanding of the current and likely future demands for its services. It has also made progress in identifying so-called hidden demand, such as child sexual exploitation. Some of the work the force does on predicting future demand is outstanding. The force has made good use of mobile devices to allow frontline staff to spend more time in public, negating the need to return to a police station to use a computer.

We found that the force is good at treating the public it serves fairly and with respect. I was pleased to find that the force takes seriously the issue of misconduct. While I have identified some areas for improvement this year, I am very reassured that the force is taking action to address the issues identified.