



Promoting improvements
in policing to make
everyone safer

HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Lincolnshire Police – Transcript

I am pleased with the overall performance of Lincolnshire Police and the progress the force has made since last year. Although, there are still some areas that the force needs to improve to provide a consistently good service.

I am very pleased that the force has investigated crime. There is still room for improvement. There is still room for improvement in some investigations, but the force has good processes and leadership in place, which is raising standards. I would like to see better management of cases in which the offender is not arrested immediately.

The force continues to prevent crime and tackle anti-social behaviour well, with neighbourhood teams demonstrating a good understanding of the communities they serve and taking action to nip problems in the bud.

I am pleased with the progress that Lincolnshire Police has made since my assessment last year in its response to the most vulnerable people. Although, there are still some areas that are of concern to me. The force is generally good at identifying vulnerable people at the first point of contact, and some aspects of its response to child sexual exploitation have improved. The force is good at protecting the people of Lincolnshire from threats from serious and organised crime.

I am impressed by the response of Lincolnshire Police to the difficult financial situation that it faces. Since my assessment last year, the force has improved the efficiency of its approach, and it provides a good service. The force understands current, hidden and future demand well, and it has done commendable work to understand and raise awareness of modern-day slavery.

However, I am still concerned that while the force has worked hard to be as efficient as possible, its financial future remains uncertain. I am reassured that the workforce understands the importance of treating the people of Lincolnshire with fairness and respect. I was pleased to find that when the force recognised a decline in victim satisfaction, it looked at ways to improve contact with victims and witnesses.

Lincolnshire Police continues to promote an ethical culture that supports challenge and improvement. Officers and staff recognise that the abuse of authority for sexual gain constitutes serious corruption, but I am concerned that the force is not actively

gathering intelligence on this type of potential abuse. The force's capacity to look for signs of corruption more broadly is limited by a lack of staff, though it does respond quickly when problems are identified.