



Cambridgeshire Constabulary has made progress in how it tackles anti-social behaviour, but is not always able to identify repeat and vulnerable ASB victims.

In Spring 2010, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) carried out a review to find out how the police can best tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB). The national findings were published alongside individual reports that outlined how successfully each force was dealing with the problem.

The results of a follow-up inspection published today found that Cambridgeshire Constabulary has made progress since 2010 in how it understands and tackles ASB problems. The chief officer team has made it clear that tackling ASB is a priority for the force, with an emphasis on dealing with the 'harm caused' from an incident.

The force has an IT system that can help to identify repeat and vulnerable victims, as well as if a call relates to local ASB priorities. This in turn will enable the force to ensure that the correct resource and response are provided. However, despite this the force does not consistently identify callers who are most at risk of harm from ASB, such as repeat and vulnerable victims. This means some of these victims may not be getting the extra support they need.

HM Inspector of Constabulary for the Eastern Region, Zoe Billingham, said:

"Anti-social behaviour is a blight that can wreck lives and communities. Our review shows that Cambridgeshire Constabulary has made progress in how it tackles the problem. The force should be commended for this – especially as it comes against the backdrop of significant budget cuts across the Service.

"However, while the progress the force has made so far represents another step towards delivering a much better service to victims, there is no room for complacency. In particular, Cambridgeshire Constabulary should continue to work on ensuring it consistently identifies the repeat and vulnerable callers who are most at risk of harm from ASB."

The full report for Cambridgeshire Constabulary, along with the national thematic review 'A Step in the Right Direction', can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk

Notes to editors

1. The full thematic report 'A Step in the Right Direction' and supporting material can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk
2. The review 'Stop the Rot' published in September 2010 and the accompanying force reports can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk
3. For further information, or to request an interview, HMIC's press office can be contacted during office hours from 8:30am – 5:30pm Monday – Friday on 0203 513 0600.

4. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) is an independent inspectorate, inspecting policing in the public interest, and rigorously examines the effectiveness of police forces and authorities to tackle crime and terrorism, improve criminal justice and raise confidence. HMIC inspects and regulates all 43 police forces in England and Wales together with other major policing bodies such as the Serious Organised Crime Agency, the Police Service of Northern Ireland and the British Transport Police and HMRC.
5. HMIC's out-of-hours press office line for urgent media enquiries is 07836 217 729.