



Dyfed-Powys Police has made good progress in achieving its savings for the comprehensive spending review period.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has today published a report on Dyfed-Powys Police's progress in meeting the challenges of the 2010 comprehensive spending review.

A thematic report, *Policing in Austerity: One Year On*, found that police forces across England and Wales have risen to the financial challenge of the spending review, cutting their spending while largely maintaining the service they provide to the public; but HMIC has some concerns about whether all forces have transformed their efficiency to the extent that this can be sustained through the next three years (and into future spending reviews).

Based on the data provided by the force, HMIC found that:

- Dyfed-Powys Police needs to save £12 million between March 2011 and March 2015. By spring 2012 they had planned how to save 100% of this amount.
- The force is planning to cut its total workforce number (i.e. police officers, police staff and police community support officers) by 120 between March 2010 and March 2015.
- 50 of these will be police officer posts; this means there will be 5% fewer officers in Dyfed-Powys (compared with a 10% average officer reduction across England and Wales).
- By 2015 73% of the workforce will be in frontline roles. This is broadly similar to the national figure.
- However, the proportion of officers in frontline roles will increase between March 2010 and March 2015 (from 88% to 94%) This means Dyfed-Powys Police will have a greater proportion of police officers on the front line than other forces.
- Dyfed-Powys Police has the lowest crime rates of any other force in England and Wales. It also continues to drive down crime, with a 2% drop recorded between 2010 and 2011.
- 86% of victims in Dyfed-Powys were satisfied with the service the force provided. This is in line with national figures.

HM Inspector of Constabulary for the Western Region, Dru Sharpling, said:

“Dyfed-Powys Police has a very good history of reducing cost through careful management and development of the force and identified the need to reduce costs long before the spending review was announced. As a result the force is in a good position to achieve its savings target by 2015.

“Although the force will be reducing its workforce, which includes cutting some police officer posts, it plans to protect the front line by increasing the proportion of officers in these crime fighting roles by 2015. This should place the force in a strong position to maintain its excellent record in keeping their communities safe and enjoying the lowest crime levels in England and Wales.”

The full report for Dyfed-Powys Police, along with the national thematic review ‘Policing in austerity: One year on’, can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk

Notes to editors

1. The full thematic report ‘Policing in austerity: One year on’ and supporting material can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk
2. The review ‘Adapting to Austerity’ published in July 2011 and the accompanying force reports can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk
3. In October 2010, the government announced that the central funding provided to the police service would reduce by 20% in the four years between March 2011 and March 2015.
4. Figures are rounded (financial figures to the nearest million and workforce figures to the nearest 10) and financial figures are in cash prices.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. HMIC’s out-of-hours press office line for urgent media enquiries is 07836 217 729.
8. Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) carried out an inspection of all 43 police forces in England and Wales in spring 2011, to see how they were planning to meet this financial challenge. When the results were published in July 2011 (search for ‘Valuing the Police’ on www.hmic.gov.uk), we committed to returning one year later to report on progress, and to assess whether there had been any impact on the service provided to the public.