



## **North Yorkshire Police has made little progress in how it tackles anti-social behaviour, and must ensure repeat and vulnerable ASB victims are identified.**

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 North Yorkshire Police has made little progress since 2010 in how it understands and tackles ASB. There are however some positives: it works well with partners, and is good at making follow-up contact with victims, to update them on the progress of their case. The force recognised issues of quality assurance in the control room and has taken action to address these. ASB is also identified as a force priority, with good police authority oversight and a specific ASB improvement plan. However, this plan is not owned at a senior level.

HMIC is concerned that staff are unclear as to what should lead to someone being categorised as a repeat victim, and that the control room do not always pass on relevant victim or incident history to officers responding to a call about ASB. ASB incidents that are reported directly to staff on patrol (as opposed to by phoning 999 or 101) are not recorded consistently; and although there are 'toolkits' which outline the options available to help staff tackle ASB, these are not easily accessible. ASB information and plans to deal with particular problems are stored on various different systems, which makes it difficult to share good practice and innovative solutions. While some data is shared with partners (to help get a better picture of ASB across North Yorkshire), this is not done electronically, making effective analysis more difficult.

HM Inspector of Constabulary for the Northern Region, Roger Baker, said:

*"Anti-social behaviour is a blight that can wreck lives and communities. Our review shows that North Yorkshire Police has made little progress in how it tackles the problem. However, victim satisfaction is higher than the national figures for England and Wales in some important areas, and the force should be commended for this – especially as it comes against the backdrop of significant budget cuts across the Service.*

*"There is absolutely no room for complacency. In particular, North Yorkshire Police must ensure repeat and vulnerable callers are identified correctly, staff are fully aware of ASB definitions and that the right recoding processes are in place. This will be a step towards delivering a much better service to victims."*

The full report for North Yorkshire Police, along with the national thematic review 'A Step in the Right Direction', can be found at [www.hmic.gov.uk](http://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](http://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](http://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.