

HMI Wendy Williams' assessment of Gwent Police – Transcript

Hello. I'm Wendy Williams and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Gwent Police. I am one of five inspectors, and our role is to inspect police forces on behalf of the public. Each year we produce an annual assessment of how each force is performing.

I would like to commend Gwent Police for the excellent progress it has made in 2015. The force has responded positively to the findings of last year's PEEL assessment and I am very pleased with its performance in keeping people safe and reducing crime.

The introduction of a new operating model has released more officers into frontline policing roles, while enabling the force to make necessary efficiency savings. In the past year, Gwent Police has developed and introduced an extensive programme of change, supported by an effective financial plan. Strong, clear force leadership and a fully-engaged workforce have, within tight timescales, achieved tangible improvements in the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of the service the force now provides to the public.

The force is good at identifying repeat and vulnerable victims, assessing risk and supporting victims.

When dealing with the public, staff look to understand and deal with the needs of individuals in order to protect vulnerable people from harm.

I have been very impressed by the way the force engages with the people of Gwent, using a wide range of methods.

It has introduced a neighbourhood management system that helps it to understand the needs of the communities in the area.

In the year ahead, I will be interested to see how the force assesses the new operating model in meeting the needs of the public.

I will be particularly interested in monitoring the continuous improvement of the Gwent multi-agency missing children hub.