



Promoting improvements
in policing to make
everyone safer

HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Leicestershire Police – Transcript

I am satisfied with most aspects of Leicestershire Police's overall performance. Although, there are some areas where the force recognises that it needs to improve.

I am very pleased that the force continues to provide a consistently good service to the public in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour. The force works hard to understand the needs of the communities it serves, making good use of social media to help with crime prevention.

However, although the force has made some progress, I am disappointed that Leicestershire Police has not improved the way in which it protects some vulnerable victims. The force's practice of downgrading risk in some high-risk domestic abuse cases is of particular concern.

I am also concerned about how Leicestershire Police investigates some crime. An overly complex process for dealing with investigations is sometimes hampering the force's ability to carry out effective and timely investigations.

However, Leicestershire Police has effective processes to identify and then investigate organised crime groups. I am also pleased to see that the force is working hard to prevent young people being drawn into this type of crime, as well as deterring those who have been involved in organised crime from returning to it.

I am reassured that Leicestershire Police has sustained its good track record of reducing costs and reinvesting in high-priority areas. It has a good understanding of the current demands for its services and is able to target its resources accordingly.

I am pleased that Leicestershire Police expects to increase spending on ever-expanding areas of policing such as child sexual exploitation and safeguarding, and I welcome its ambitious plans to increase its effective collaborative working with other forces.

The force is committed to treating the people it serves with fairness and respect, and seeks both positive feedback and challenge from the public. It does, however, need to do more analysis of the information it receives from the public, to identify and address the areas it could improve on, with the aim of further increasing public trust.

The force responds well to reports of possible corruption, but greater capacity in its anti-corruption unit would enable it to seek out this information proactively. I would

also like to see it do more to clarify and reinforce what constitutes acceptable behaviour, particularly in relation to abuse of power for sexual gain. I am pleased to confirm that the force treats its workforce fairly and respectfully.