



## HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Lincolnshire Police

Hello. I'm Zoë Billingham and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Lincolnshire Police. Our role is to inspect police forces on behalf of the public, and I am one of five inspectors appointed by the Queen. We are independent of government and police forces.

This year we are introducing a new way of inspecting the police and reporting our findings to you the public. We have called this approach the PEEL assessments, and this means police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy.

In relation to effectiveness: my assessment of Lincolnshire Police in 2014 is that in general, the force is good at reducing crime and preventing offending and is good at tackling anti-social behaviour.

However, it requires improvement in the way it investigates offending.

In relation to efficiency: my assessment is that the force has demonstrated a good response in meeting its financial challenge achieving substantial savings in extremely difficult circumstances.

The force has the lowest workforce costs in England and Wales, and makes extensive use of collaboration and outsourcing to maximise efficiency. But its options to achieve future savings without cutting its frontline workforce are now extremely limited.

In relation to legitimacy: my assessment is that the force is acting to achieve fairness and legitimacy in most of the practices that we examined this year. The force takes a very victim focused approach, recording crimes with an impressively high degree of accuracy.

Next year we will be seeing how forces have responded to this assessment, and we will give them overall grades so that *you* can see, at a glance, how well *your* force is doing.