



HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Norfolk Constabulary

Hello. I'm Zoë Billingham and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Norfolk. 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 for Norfolk Constabulary in 2014 is that in general, the force is good at investigating offending, good at tackling anti-social behaviour and outstanding at reducing crime and preventing offending.

In relation to efficiency: my assessment is that the force's response to the financial challenge of the spending review is outstanding. The force is planning for the long-term, taking the necessary steps today, so it is ready to meet future funding challenges in this ongoing era of austerity.

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.

This is a well-led force. I have been particularly impressed by its real commitment to neighbourhood policing which lies at the heart of its outstanding approach.

It works very effectively with other agencies, like local councils to get upstream before problems escalate with a very strong focus on preventing crime and anti-social behaviour. The force is to be commended for its performance this year.

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.