

HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Norfolk Constabulary – Transcript

Hello. I'm Zoe Billingham and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Norfolk Constabulary.

I am one of five inspectors of constabulary, 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 congratulate Norfolk Constabulary on its excellent performance this year in keeping the people of Norfolk safe and reducing crime.

I have continued to be very impressed by the force's commitment to neighbourhood policing which lies at the heart of its approach to preventing crime and anti-social behaviour. The force has protected its local neighbourhood teams, which work extremely well with partners (including local councils) to keep communities safe.

I am pleased that the force has an outstanding approach to preventing crime and anti-social behaviour. I am particularly impressed that despite the financial challenges, the force has invested in those areas supporting the most vulnerable victims. Together with partners, Norfolk Constabulary responds well to missing and absent children and victims of domestic abuse, and continues to develop its approach to tackling child sexual exploitation.

I commend the force for its outstanding performance in reducing its costs whilst maintaining the service it provides to the public.

It continues to plan for the long term and together with Suffolk Constabulary has joined with academic institutions to carefully review how it provides services to ensure it represents value for money.

The force is very well led with an ethos of protecting the most vulnerable members of the community. It has developed and maintains an ethical culture. The workforce understand the importance of giving careful consideration to ethical issues in the decisions they make to protect the public.

In the year ahead, I will be particularly interested to see how the force continues to develop its collaboration with Suffolk and wider partners to improve the services it delivers to the people of Norfolk.