

HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Nottinghamshire Police – Transcript

Hello. I'm Zoe Billingham and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Nottinghamshire Police. 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 am pleased with the performance of Nottinghamshire Police in keeping people safe and reducing crime. The improvements that the force has made this year are noteworthy.

I particularly welcome the improvements the force has made to the quality of its crime investigations. The force has strong local partnership arrangements. It works well to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and to prevent offending. I am pleased that the force is good at identifying and disrupting organised criminality.

Nottinghamshire Police generally provides a good service in identifying and assessing the risks to vulnerable people and safeguarding vulnerable victims. HMIC found some areas where improvement is needed to provide the best possible service to keep safe vulnerable people, particularly children. We also found that, although the force has improved its approach to tackling domestic abuse, further work in this area is needed. However, I am reassured that the force has acted on our inspection findings, taking prompt action to address these important issues.

I am satisfied that the force is adequately prepared to face future financial challenges. The force has a good understanding of the demand on its services, although at the time of our efficiency inspection it did not match its resources to meet that demand as well as it could. I welcome the progress the force has made in the implementation of a new way of organising itself, which involves the redeployment of some of the workforce to areas of the highest priority.

The chief officer team is fully committed to establishing an ethical workforce. For example, officers ensure that the use of stop and search is proportionate and properly recorded. There is a strong culture of listening to and responding to public concerns, although the force needs to improve its engagement with communities in some parts of the county. I am encouraged by the strong local policing presence and commitment to working with partners to keep people safe.

In the year ahead, I will be particularly interested to see how the force continues to improve it's child protection services.