



Hertfordshire Constabulary's approach to efficiency judged to be 'good' by HMIC

In the second year of assessing police against the annual PEEL Efficiency inspection, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary examined how police forces use their resources now and how they plan to do so in the future in order to keep people safe and reduce crime.

Forces were inspected on how well they are able to predict demand for their services now and in the longer term, and how they manage their resources, especially their officers and staff.

HMIC inspects all police forces in England and Wales on an annual basis against the themes of effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy.

This year Hertfordshire Constabulary has been found to be:

- **good at using its resources to meet current demand;**
- **responding to clear priorities such as protecting vulnerable people;**
- **investing extra resources to investigate domestic abuse and sexual offences; and**
- **developing its understanding of the skills of its workforce to best align them to meet the needs of the public.**

HM Inspector of Constabulary Zoë Billingham said:

"For the second year running, we have judged Hertfordshire Constabulary to be 'good' when managing its resources and matching them to current demand.

"The force has a track record of careful financial management and achieving savings targets and it is in a strong position to plan well for future demand, once it has increased its understanding of future demand and the skills of its workforce.

"The force's strong partnerships with neighbouring forces, Bedfordshire Police and Cambridgeshire Constabulary, to work collaboratively in all policing functions except local policing, will allow it to continue to meet savings requirements. And it is also developing strategic partnerships with other emergency services and local councils to share resources and manage future demand together.

"Hertfordshire Constabulary recognises that it needs to improve its understanding of all the sources of current demand to enable it to reduce demand, increase productivity and plan for the future effectively and it has

already started work working with the College of Policing to improve its approach.”

HMIC will report on its findings of police forces’ legitimacy - or the way that forces are fair and ethical - at the end of this year, and on the effectiveness of police forces in managing all aspects of crime in spring 2017.

Notes to editors

1. Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) is an independent inspectorate, inspecting policing in the public interest, and assesses and reports on the effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy of police forces in tackling crime and terrorism, improve criminal justice and raise confidence. HMIC inspects all 43 police forces in England and Wales together with other major policing and law enforcement bodies.
2. As part of its annual inspections of police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy (PEEL), HMIC’s Efficiency programme assessed and graded all 43 forces in England and Wales on how efficient they are at keeping people safe and reducing crime.
3. To answer this question we looked at three areas:
 1. How well does the force use its resources to meet demand?
 2. How sustainable and affordable is the workforce model?
 3. How sustainable is the force’s financial position for the short and long term?
4. Two of the 43 forces in England and Wales received an ‘outstanding’ grade in HMIC’s efficiency inspection (Durham and West Midlands).
5. Eight forces received a ‘requires improvement’ grade (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, City of London, Devon and Cornwall, Dyfed Powys, Humberside, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire Police).
6. The remaining 33 forces were judged as ‘good’.
7. No forces were judged to be ‘inadequate’.
8. In addition to an inspection report for each force, a national report, PEEL: Police Efficiency 2016 gives an overview of findings across England and Wales.
9. Last year (2015), five forces were ‘outstanding’ (Cheshire; Durham; Lancashire; Norfolk; and West Midlands). Eight forces received a ‘requires improvement’ grade (Bedfordshire; Cleveland; Dorset; Dyfed Powys; Lincolnshire; Northamptonshire; South Yorkshire; and Surrey). One force received an ‘inadequate’ grade (Humberside) and the remaining 29 forces were judged as ‘good’. These reports are available [on our website](#).
10. For further information, HMIC’s press office can be contacted during office hours from 8:30am – 5:00pm (GMT) Monday – Friday on 020 3513 0600.
11. HMIC’s out-of-hours press office line for urgent media enquiries is 07836 217 729.