

## HMI Zoë Billingham's assessment of Suffolk Constabulary

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

In relation to efficiency: my assessment is that the force's response to the financial challenge of the spending review to date has been good.

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.

I am encouraged that neighbourhood policing remains at the heart of the force's approach. Safer neighbourhood teams deal with their local communities' concerns well and work well with partners, like local councils, to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

Next year I will be interested to see how the force's important and highly effective collaboration with Norfolk Constabulary develops as this has produced savings that to date have enabled the force to protect its frontline workforce.

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.