



Greater Manchester Police has made good progress in how it tackles anti-social behaviour, but could do more to identify those victims who are most at risk of harm from ASB

In Spring 2010, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) carried out a review to find out how the police can best tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB). The national findings were published alongside individual reports that outlined how successfully each force was dealing with the problem.

The results of a follow-up inspection published today found that Greater Manchester Police has made good progress since 2010. Tackling ASB is clearly identified as a priority for the force, with strong support from the chief officer team, a comprehensive strategy and a detailed plan for improvement. Patrol officers are better equipped to consistently assess the risk to victims and ensure that those who are identified as being most at risk of harm from ASB are able to get the support they need.

However, IT systems do not automatically flag up if a call is from someone previously categorised as a repeat or vulnerable victim, and the force needs to improve how it prioritises incidents of ASB and subsequently responds to them.

HM Inspector of Constabulary for the Northern Region, Roger Baker, said:

“Anti-social behaviour is a blight that can wreck lives and communities. Our review shows that Greater Manchester Police has made good progress in how it tackles the problem, and that victim satisfaction levels are broadly in line with national figures for England and Wales as a whole. The force should be commended for this – especially as it comes against the backdrop of significant budget cuts across the Service.”

“However, there is no room for complacency. In particular, Greater Manchester Police should do more to ensure it consistently identifies ASB victims who need the most support as soon as they call for help. This progress is therefore only the first step in delivering a much better service to victims.”

The full report for Greater Manchester Police, along with the national thematic review 'A Step in the Right Direction', can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk

Notes to editors

1. The full thematic report 'A Step in the Right Direction' and supporting material can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk
2. The review 'Stop the Rot' published in September 2010 and the accompanying force reports can be found at www.hmic.gov.uk
3. For further information, or to request an interview, HMIC's press office can be contacted during office hours from 8:30am – 5:30pm Monday – Friday on 0203 513 0600.
4. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) is an independent inspectorate, inspecting policing in the public interest, and rigorously examines the effectiveness of police forces and authorities to tackle crime and terrorism, improve criminal justice and raise confidence. HMIC inspects and regulates all 43 police forces in England and Wales together with other major policing bodies such as the Serious Organised Crime Agency, the Police Service of Northern Ireland and the British Transport Police and HMRC.
5. HMIC's out-of-hours press office line for urgent media enquiries is 07836 217 729.