



Lancashire Constabulary has exceeded its already high standards in how it tackles anti-social behaviour

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 Lancashire Constabulary has not only maintained its high standards in tackling the problem, but has exceeded them. Tackling ASB is both a strategic and operational priority for the force, with strong support from the chief officer team.

Lancashire Constabulary has managed to involve more staff from across different policing functions in tackling ASB. They are held responsible and accountable for service delivery to ASB victims, and work together to reduce the number of repeat ASB victims. The force has also continued to improve and develop its work with partners and communities in tackling ASB issues. Keeping ASB victims informed and updated on the progress of their case is high on the agenda in the force.

The force creates IT markers to flag up if a caller has phoned about a problem before (and so might be a repeat ASB victim); HMIC found that this process worked well. However, the arrangements for reviewing or removing these markers when they are no longer required is one potential area for improvement.

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

“Our review shows that Lancashire Constabulary has not only maintained its high standards in tackling the problem, but has exceeded them, and that victim satisfaction is in line with the national figures for England and Wales. The force should be greatly commended for this – especially as it comes against the backdrop of significant budget cuts across the Service.

“However, there is no room for complacency. Anti-social behaviour is a blight that can wreck lives and communities and so the force should continue to improve the service it provides to victims.”

The full report for Lancashire Constabulary, 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.