

**Wiltshire Police has made some progress in how it tackles anti-social behaviour, but does not consistently identify repeat and vulnerable ASB victims.**

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 Wiltshire Police has made some progress since 2010 in the way it understands and tackles ASB problems. Tackling ASB is a clearly stated priority for the force. Neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs) are well supported, and seldom taken off their local duties to do other policing jobs. They are enthusiastic about tackling ASB in their communities, and galvanised by strong and improving work with partners (such as local councils) to deal with particular problems, with good relationships and information sharing. There are processes in place to make sure that resources are targeted where they can make the most difference.

However, the force does not consistently identify if a caller is particularly vulnerable (for instance, because they are disabled or elderly) or has been an ASB victim before. This means some people may not be getting the extra support they need. HMIC also found that little progress had been made in implementing a set of minimum standards and policies around how ASB should be tackled. Force analysis of ASB is limited although there is evidence that plans to tackle specific ASB problems are allocated to assigned officers.

HM Inspector of Constabulary for the Western Region, Dru Sharpling, said:

*“Anti-social behaviour is a blight that can wreck lives and communities. Our review shows that Wiltshire Police has made some progress in how it tackles the problem, and that victim satisfaction is broadly in line with the national figures for England and Wales. 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, Wiltshire Police should ensure repeat and vulnerable callers are identified consistently and that the right plans are in place to tackle ASB across the force. This progress is therefore a first step in delivering a much better service to victims.”*

The full report for Wiltshire Police, along with the national thematic review ‘A Step in the Right Direction’, can be found at [www.hmic.gov.uk](http://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](http://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](http://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.