



HUMBERSIDE
POLICE AUTHORITY

MEDIA INFORMATION

Robust Planning Pays Off: HMIC Assess the Work of Humberside Police and Humberside Police Authority

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary (HMIC) has today published reports following an inspection of all 43 police forces in England and Wales. These inspections were carried out in order to monitor the Police Service's reaction and preparedness for cutting crime while reducing costs. The aim of the work was to assess how well forces are planning to meet the financial challenge and what the impact will be on the service provided to the public.

HMIC concluded that the force and Authority clearly understands the scale of the challenge and have considered a full range of options, underpinned by a comprehensive programme of consultation to find out what areas of policing the public most valued. They acknowledged that this consultation and feedback had helped influence the change programme. Despite the financial issues the force will face, HMIC was satisfied that the Humberside Policing Plan this year sets clear objectives to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour rather than simply trying to stand still.

Commenting on the report, the Chair of the Police Authority Mrs Ros Taylor MBE said:

"When we first saw the scale of the financial cuts ahead we realised we had a significant amount of work to do to plan for the next five years. We recognised very quickly that we needed to talk to the public to find out what was really important for them and then ensure those areas of policing remained priorities for the future."

"The consultation we undertook was probably some of the most comprehensive we have ever carried out and the feedback from the public has been invaluable in giving us a good sense of direction. For example we have a clear mandate for neighbourhood policing to continue and as a result will not be reducing PCSO numbers this year.

"It is a credit to the Chief Constable and the officers and staff from the force and Authority that we now have a robust plan in place and this has been recognised in the report today by HMIC. Despite having to make cuts, good planning and

use of resources means we will continue to push for reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour. Now the planning is complete the task of the Authority is to monitor the implementation of the change programme while keeping a close and careful watch on performance. If we see evidence that targets are not being met our job, on behalf of the public, is to engage with the Chief Constable and provide whatever support we can to get performance back on track'

-Ends-

Notes to Editors

For further information please contact Claire Harrison of Humberside Police Authority on 01482 220793/07792 935581.

To access the HMIC report please visit www.hmic.gov.uk

For the most recent reports from Humberside Police to the Police Authority on police officer and staff numbers please visit our web site at Humberside-pa.org.uk where you can view the committee papers.