

HMIC INSPECTION: “POLICING IN AUSTERITY: MEETING THE CHALLENGE”

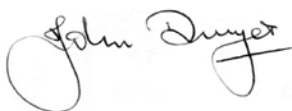
I refer to the report published by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary on 22 July 2014 as part of the Valuing the Police programme of inspections.

I welcome the report and am pleased that it finds that Cheshire Constabulary has made ‘good progress in saving money and [...] strenuous efforts to make savings in areas that limit the impact on frontline policing’. It is gratifying that the Inspectorate finds the Constabulary to be well placed to deliver effective policing whilst facing future financial challenges.

The Chief Constable and I continue to look for ways to further reduce costs and maintain the police officers and staff we have directly working in our communities. Whilst these continue to be tough times we are working to ensure the public receive a good policing service when they need it.

We have, in Cheshire, a proven track record of meeting financial challenges, while at the same time delivering high-quality community policing to those working and living in the county. The Constabulary’s change programme is developing how policing will be delivered more efficiently and with fewer resources in the future.

I continue to hold the Chief Constable to account on behalf of the people of Cheshire to continue to ensure that they deliver the best value policing. I am glad however that people can feel reassured by this report which also found that the strong focus on reducing non-pay costs and protecting frontline budgets means that the Constabulary has made less of its savings from cutting staff than other forces.



John Dwyer
Police & Crime Commissioner