

POLICE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS 2004/05

PEER COMPARISON

The table below shows the performance of **Dorset** compared to its peers for the period 1 April 2004 – 31 March 2005.

EXPLANATION

Police forces operate in different environments and it is reasonable to expect that performance will vary because of this. By comparing forces which operate in similar environments we are able to identify relative strengths and weaknesses. Therefore, each force is compared to forces which are most similar to it. Peers are identified using a range of geographic, demographic, and socio-economic information and each force has its own unique group of peers.

The first force in the table (name in bold) is the 'force of interest'. The other forces in the table are its peers in alphabetic order.

Each force is assessed in seven key performance areas: Reducing Crime; Investigating Crime; Promoting Safety; Providing Assistance; Citizen Focus; Resource Use and Local Policing.

Two assessments are made in each of the seven areas, both of which are based on a combination of performance data and professional judgement.

The first assessment concerns the performance delivered by a force over the last year (2004/05). Typically, this judgment is made by comparing the performance achieved by a force to that achieved by a group of similar forces (its peers). For each performance area a force can be graded 'excellent', 'good', 'fair' or 'poor'.

The second assessment is made on direction by comparing the performance achieved by a force in one year to that achieved by the same force in the previous year (ie 2004/05 compared to 2003/04). For each performance area a force can be graded 'improved', 'stable' or 'deteriorated'.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Home Office and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary published '*Police Performance Assessments 2004/05*' in October 2005. All assessments plus underpinning data are available at:

<http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/performance-and-measurement/performance-assessment>

Force	Reducing Crime	Investigating Crime	Promoting Safety	Providing Assistance	Citizen Focus	Resource Use	Local Policing
Dorset	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Good
	Improved	Improved	Improved	Stable	Deteriorated	Improved	Improved
Essex	Excellent	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
	Improved	Improved	Improved	Improved	Stable	Improved	Deteriorated
Gloucestershire	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good
	Improved	Stable	Stable	Stable	Improved	Improved	Stable
Norfolk	Excellent	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Fair
	Improved	Stable	Stable	Improved	Improved	Improved	Stable
Suffolk	Excellent	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good
	Stable	Improved	Improved	Stable	Deteriorated	Stable	Stable
Surrey	Excellent	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Stable	Improved	Stable	Stable	Improved	Improved	Improved
Sussex	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Fair	Good	Good
	Improved	Stable	Stable	Improved	Stable	Improved	Improved
West Mercia	Good	Excellent	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Good
	Improved	Improved	Stable	Stable	Improved	Improved	Improved

End