



**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Constable

**Date:** 12 June 2014

## **OPERATIONAL UPDATE**

### **1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an operational update to the Commissioner. This covers recent performance, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) inspections, significant operations and effective and efficient policing.

### **2. Recommendation**

2.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

### **3. Performance Update**

3.1 Work is on-going to align performance management information to the recently adopted Policing Priorities. These Priorities help achieve the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan by emphasising to officers the importance of making decisions based around risk. This will ensure that the Constabulary respond effectively to those that are most vulnerable, whilst also balancing this against the need to deliver core policing objectives. Traditional metrics remain important and a summary against these headline measures is provided below.

3.2 The level of confidence in local communities (as measured by the local engagement survey) has continued to fall with 68.1% of respondents from a sample size of 3410 agreeing that the "Constabulary deals with the things that matter in my community". This compares with 72.8% for the same 12 months last year. This data runs contrary to the national survey that shows confidence in Cambridgeshire to have improved.

3.3 Neither survey is taken in isolation as both measures represent the views of separate samples (with different sampling methodology). It is clear that reversing recent

performance is not immediate, and that initial actions taken to improve have not had an immediate impact. A building confidence 'toolkit' has been developed and shared with colleagues. It draws on findings of local analysis and national research and while it is not expected to reverse the decline instantly, it is anticipated that it will have impact in the coming months.

- 3.4 The proportion of survey respondents that consider a high level of Anti-Social Behaviour in their area has remained consistently low. In the 12 months to April, 0.9% of 3410 respondents indicated this to be the case which is consistent with the previous five months (and lower than previous results).
- 3.5 While the level of crime recorded in March is consistent with the average of the previous 12 and 36 months, the level of recorded crime on each of the last four months (Dec, Jan, Feb, March) has been numerically higher than the same period in the previous year. This emerging pattern of an upturn in recorded crime has been influenced by an increased level of scrutiny around crime recording standards.
- 3.6 New procedures have been introduced in the Force Control Room that ensures rigid compliance to National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS). The total number of incidents reported to police fell between March and April, with levels remaining consistent with the last eight months. This offers further evidence of an increase in numbers of crimes recorded as a percentage of incidents reported.
- 3.7 This increase in crime is mirrored across the region as all Forces are actively working to improve their adherence to NCRS.
- 3.8 Although not significantly higher at year end, the satisfaction of victims of racist incidents showed improvement against the baseline (for the rolling 12 months to April 2014 it was 80.7% and for the most recent period ie 12 months to May 82.0%)

#### **4. HMIC Inspections Update**

- 4.1 The Constabulary undergoes its HMIC Crime Data Integrity (CDI) Inspection from 27<sup>th</sup> May through to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2014. This is a two week inspection with the first week consisting of a detailed audit and the following week the fieldwork phase which involves interviews with key strategic leads, reality testing and staff focus groups.
- 4.2 The purpose of the audit week is to examine incidents recorded on forces' incident systems and track them through the process to finalisation. From this, HMIC intend to produce a national estimate on the accuracy of crime recording and classification.
- 4.3 An interim assessment was published by HMIC on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014 highlighting the key themes identified from the 13 forces that had been inspected so far.
- 4.4 The Force has had an action plan in place since last year in response to the HMIC inspection of Kent Constabulary which was the catalyst for the focus upon national crime recording standards.

- 4.5 The action plan is divided into three main areas – leadership and governance, systems and processes and people and skills. The interim report has been considered by the Force’s Crime Data Integrity Working Group, together with feedback from Leicestershire Police who have been the most recent local force to be inspected.
- 4.6 The Force is confident that the action plan in place already incorporates and addresses the areas highlighted in both the interim report and in the feedback provided by Leicestershire Police.
- 4.7 The Force has been advised that the anticipated HMIC inspection into police Integrity and Corruption will be undertaken between 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The full scope and terms of reference have yet to be received for this inspection but HMIC will be carrying out both individual force interviews and interviews and reality testing in the collaborated Professional Standard Department.
- 4.8 Pre-inspection preparation continues in respect of the Child Protection inspection, which will be unannounced.
- 4.9 Cambridgeshire is one of eight forces due to be inspected as part of a national thematic into the Management of Police Information (MoPI). This inspection is currently scheduled for three days from 30<sup>th</sup> June although due to unavailability of key staff, during this period, this date may be subject to change.

## **5. Significant Operations**

- 5.1 Strawberry Fair is due to be held on 7th June 2014. This now coincides with a planned animal rights demonstration on the same day. Planning is currently on-going for both events.
- 5.2 Midsummer Fair is due to be held from 16th to 24th June 2014. This currently remains in the planning stage.
- 5.3 Further planning in respect of the Tour de France on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 has now taken place. The policing will begin at 1700 on 6th July and run until approximately 0700 8th July to ensure public safety and manage the return to business as usual.
- 5.4 Planning is also in progress for the Secret Garden Party which runs from 24th to 28th August 2014.
- 5.5 The policing response to the World Cup begins on 14th June 2014, for England’s first game. This event is being managed as a Tri-Force operation, with additional policing being determined based upon England’s progression through the tournament.

## **6. Successful outcomes for victims**

- 6.1 The courage of a number of child victims has been praised after two men were convicted of sexually exploiting young girls in Peterborough. The men were

convicted at Cambridge Crown Court on 20<sup>th</sup> May of 24 charges including four rapes and 12 counts of trafficking in relation to eight girls. The investigation was part of Operation Erle - a joint proactive investigation between Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Peterborough City Council's Children's Services. The men will be sentenced at a later date. Following the verdicts, prosecutor Patricia Lynch told the judge: "This police team has been head and shoulders above any others I have worked with."

- 6.2 The case follows a successful prosecution at the Old Bailey earlier this year where five men and teenage boys were convicted of a catalogue of sexual offences against underage girls. Four were jailed for a total of 54 years.
- 6.3 A female who was caught supplying drugs to her serving prisoner son via inmates on day release has been ordered to pay back £14,000 - despite the narcotics being worth just a fraction of that amount. Alicia Robertson was jailed for 14 months in October 2013 after she admitted handing cannabis and ketamine to inmates while they worked at a Huntingdon school on day release. Thanks to the efforts of the financial investigators, she has been ordered to hand over the £13,690 cash which was found in her home at the time of her arrest.
- 6.4 Despite initially contesting that the cash was from legitimate sources, she eventually conceded that she was unable to give a viable explanation for where it had come from. She was judged to have benefitted by a total of £14,101 from crime.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<b>Source Document(s)</b>	
<b>Contact Officer</b>	