



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Constable

Date: 26 November 2020

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN – VICTIMS THEME – CAMBRIDGESHIRE CONSTABULARY WORK TO DELIVER ACTIONS AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Business Coordination Board (the “Board”) on the Victims pillar of the Police and Crime Plan (the “Plan”) and performance updated from Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the “Constabulary”).

2. Recommendation

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

3. Background

3.1 The most recent Force Performance Meeting was held on 20th October 2020 and reviewed performance in the 12 months ending September 2020. This report reflects the updates provided to that meeting.

3.2 Alongside an overall review of performance, the report will also update on the operational priority in the Constabulary’s new Corporate Plan which aligns to the Victims pillar of the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Acting Commissioner”) Plan. This is ‘Safeguard the Vulnerable.’ With the focus on Domestic

Abuse, Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, Serious Sexual Offences, Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking and Fraud.

4. Performance Headlines

- 4.1 There is typically a drop in incident demand from August to September, but the drop this year was larger than any of the previous five years.
- 4.2 Call volumes fell month on month and relative to September 2019, for both 101 and 999 calls. With fewer calls to manage, Grade of service scores for 101 and 999 call volumes both improved month on month and were each higher than they had been in September 2019.
- 4.3 Secondary call handling abandonment rates improved month on month for both public and crime lines, though public line abandonment percentages in particular remain high. The Force Performance Board will investigate the availability of data to inform our understanding of how many callers are diverted to other means of contact (for instance webchat) and how many do not.
- 4.4 Incident volumes fell month on month and relative to September 2019, with Immediate grade incidents seeing the biggest decline.
- 4.5 Median immediate response time improved while the prompt median response time remained stable month on month. Prompt response times to domestic incidents, violence incidents and dwelling burglary all saw month on month improvements, though the time to prompt Sexual offence incidents increased.
- 4.6 Recorded crime was 3.5% down month on month and also 3.2% lower than in September 2019. South Area saw the most substantial reductions: 5.7% lower month on month and 8% fewer South Area crimes than September 2019. South Districts recorded crime all fell month on month, but varied compared to September 2019: Cambridge City recorded crime was 22% lower than in September 2019, while East Cambs was 30% higher – analysis to understand offending on East Cambs is underway.
- 4.7 The reduced demand in September helped improve the rates of key performance indicators, such as Victim Care Contract (VCC) compliance and overdue supervisory reviews. The proportion of crimes overdue a supervisory review reduced from 16.9% at the end of August to 11.5% at the end of September, the lowest monthly rate so far recorded. VCC compliance improved from 20.8% showing as overdue updates at the end of August to 14.2% showing as overdue by the end of September.
- 4.8 The discrete monthly prosecution possible outcome rate for all crime was 10.1% in September, down from 10.8% in August. The rolling 12 month rate, however, increased 0.1ppt to 12.9%.

5 Safeguarding the Vulnerable Operational Priority

SAFEGUARDING THE VULNERABLE	Current Month	Sep-19	Sep-18	Sep-17	Current v 1yr avg	Current v 3yr avg	Rolling 12 months	Baseline	Perf v Benchmark	MSF	RAG status
All Recorded Crime	5,576	5,763	5,291	5,551	Comparable	Comparable	64,805	67,882	Comparable		
DOMESTIC ABUSE											
Recorded Crime	985	793	615	575	Comparable	Higher	11,977	10,660	Higher		
Prosecution Possible Outcome Rate	11.1%	10.6%	13.5%	26.3%	Comparable	Deteriorated	11.7%	10.3%	Improved		
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION											
Recorded Crime (CSA)	70	59	63	44	Comparable	Comparable	821	778	Higher		
Prosecution Possible Outcome Rate (CSA)	17.1%	11.9%	15.9%	11.4%	Improved	Improved	17.2%	11.6%	Improved		
RAPE											
Recorded Crime	72	71	87	44	Comparable	Comparable	823	777	Higher		
Prosecution Possible Outcome Rate	11.1%	15.5%	1.1%	11.4%	Improved	Improved	4.5%	3.5%	Improved		
MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING											
Recorded Crime	4	1	3	1	Comparable	Comparable	83	68	Higher		
ASSAULTS ON EMERGENCY WORKERS											
Recorded Crime											
FRAUD											
Non Crime Investigations	73	76	59	-	Comparable	-	917	-	-		

5.1 Domestic Abuse

- 5.1.1 The number of Domestic Abuse (DA) crimes fell by 15% month on month, from the recent high seen in August, but September still saw 24% more recorded DA than September 2019. The long-term trend, the rolling 12-month total continues to rise month on month, as it has done every month since January 2019. South Area still records higher levels of DA than the North, but levels in the North are rising faster: in September the South recorded a 9% increase in DA relative to September 2019, but on North the increase was 42%. Analysis presented to the Force Performance Board in October demonstrated that this is in part related to changes in Home Office Counting Rule Changes.
- 5.1.2 Monthly and 12 month prosecution possible outcome rates remained stable month on month; the monthly rate at 11.1% and the 12 month rate at 11.7%. The 12 month rate is above the current baseline, though below the 3 year average.
- 5.1.3 Following the successful pilot, Facebook DA surgeries will continue monthly, offering interactive Q&A service supported by partner agencies.
- 5.1.4 The DA Perpetrator panel recommenced in September, with the top 10 DA perpetrators plus five allocated based on professional judgement. The Panel uses the Recency, Frequency, Gravity (RFG) scoring matrix.
- 5.1.5 Despite investment in training, number of Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs) and Stalking Protection Orders (SPOs) continues to be low. National research is underway, as is a project with a Regional working group to design training packages and materials. The South DA Tactical Lead has engaged with the Public Protection Detective Chief Superintendent (DCS) in Essex to understand how they have achieved the best rate of DVPN use across the country. The learning will be shared across all teams.
- 5.1.6 VCC compliance on DA crimes improved over September from 79.2% to 86.1% (% not overdue) while the compliance rate for DA crimes supervisor reviews also improved

from 85.3% to 88.1%. As was seen in April, as demand in a given month falls, improvements in these performance metrics commonly follows.

5.2 Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

- 5.2.1 70 child sexual offences were recorded in September; a 13% month on month rise and 19% higher than September 2019. North Area was stable month on month (-2 offences fewer than August) while South Area Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) rose by 12 offences month on month to 40 in September. The long-term 12 month measure for (CSA) continues to rise gradually month on month, as it has done every month since April. Monthly Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) numbers continue to be erratic, but the 12 month total has risen steadily until July 2020 and has been stable since then (at 336 offences by the end of September 2020).
- 5.2.2 The prosecution possible rates for the 2020/21 financial year so far for both CSA and CSE are markedly improved on the same period in 2019. For CSA, the rate over April to September in 2019 had been 10.2% but this improved to 21.9% so far in 2020/21. The improvement for CSE was even more substantial; from 2.5% with only three prosecution possible outcomes in April-September 2019 to 33 prosecution possible outcomes and a rate of 20.4% in April-September 2020.

5.3 Serious Sexual Offences

- 5.3.1 The number of Serious Sexual Offences was stable month on month, 143 offences recorded in the month, a 6.7% increase on September 2019. The long term indicator is gradually rising. Rape offence numbers were stable month on month and the 12-month indicator continues to rise. So far this financial year (April to September) has seen 425 rapes reported, a 12% increase on the figure of 379 seen in April-September 2019.
- 5.3.2 The long-term trend of month on month increases in the 12 month prosecution possible outcome rate for all Serious Sexual Offences halted in September as the rate dropped 0.4ppt to 7.5%. The 12-month rate for rape offences remains above the 1 and 3 year averages, though it also lost 0.4ppt in September, to 4.5%. The South Area rate decreased by 1ppt to 5.4%, with the North Area rate remaining stable at 4.4%.
- 5.3.3 The average length of live Rape Investigation Team (RIT) investigations reached a low of 188 days in July but has risen over August and September to 200 days at the start of October. A significant number of legacy crimes over three years old are currently being processed for summons: once issued this should reduce the average live investigation length down further. Recognising the complexity of Rape Investigations, the RIT are working towards an aspirational target of 6-month start to finish average investigation time.
- 5.3.4 The reintroduction of STO (Specially Trained Officers) has added significant value to the investigation process, with STO's managing all victim contact within the RIT. This has led to improved VCC compliance and fewer victims disengaging.
- 5.3.5 The proportion of RIT investigations showing as overdue supervisory review has not changed significantly month on month, but the proportion of VCC's overdue an update did improve. At the start of September 80% of RIT investigations were showing as VCC update compliant, but by the end of October this had increased to 92%.

5.3.6 Scrutiny panels continue between RIT, Child Abuse Investigation and Safeguarding Unit (CAISU) and relevant partners, including the Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (ISVA) Service and Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). They seek to establish reasons for disengagement or case discontinuance and identify learning for the future.

5.3.7 Good investigative work in this priority area included a recent summons file authorised for 6 rape charges by CPS, service of the summons pending at the time of writing.

5.4 Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

5.4.1 Four Modern Slavery offences were recorded last month, bringing the total for the last 12 months to 83; a 60% increase on the September 2019 12 month figure. The number of N200 investigations (reported incidents of modern slavery under the National Referral Mechanism) rose to four in September (from 0 in July and two in August), which is consistent with previous monthly figures.

5.4.2 For the 12 months to September 2020, the 12 month prosecution possible outcome rate for Modern Slavery offences was 7.2%, up from 3.8% for the 12 months to September 2019. This was as a result of six prosecution possible outcomes in the last 12 months – with offence numbers as low as they are for Modern Slavery, the outcome rate remains very susceptible to changes up or down based on small numbers of prosecution possible outcomes.

5.4.3 Neighbourhood Policing performance data for September details measures taken to safeguard a high harm victim identified by the Cambridge Harm Index. The female victim, an exploitation suspect, has been exploited for money and occupation of home. She has been issued a Community Protection Notice (CPN) which means she can now be arrested should she breach. Four other potential individuals have been safeguarded, preventing potential sexual exploitation.

5.4.4 Community Protection Notices (CPN) can be used to deal with particular, ongoing problems or nuisances which are having a detrimental effect on the community's quality of life by targeting those responsible; for instance, it can deal with noise nuisance and litter on private land. Before CPN's are issued a written warning must first be issued informing the perpetrator of their problem behaviour, requesting them to stop and the consequences of continuing. Then the relevant authority can issue a CPN along with the requirement to stop things or to take reasonable steps to avoid further anti-social behaviour.

5.5 Fraud

5.5.1 Cambridgeshire received 73 fraud referrals in September; ten more than in August and consistent with the 12 month average (76/month). The overall trend for fraud referrals is stable.

5.5.2 Action Fraud referred 31 victims of fraud to the Victim and Witness Hub last month; unchanged from the same month last year. This brings the total number of referrals financial year to date (FYTD) to 192, compared to 330 in the same period last year (Apr – Sep 2019).

6 Recommendation

6.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Documents	Police and Crime Plan https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/police-crime-plan/ Cambridgeshire Constabulary Corporate Plan 2020/21 https://www.cambs.police.uk/assets/PDFs/About/Transparency/AboutUs-OurForce-Corporate-plan-2020-21.pdf
Contact Officer	Neil Stacey, Strategic Analysis Manager, Strategic Analysis Team, Cambridgeshire Constabulary