

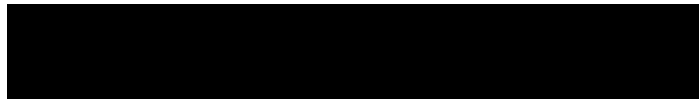
# Public Document Pack



28 October 2022

**To: Members of the Public Accountability Board**

This matter is being dealt with by:  
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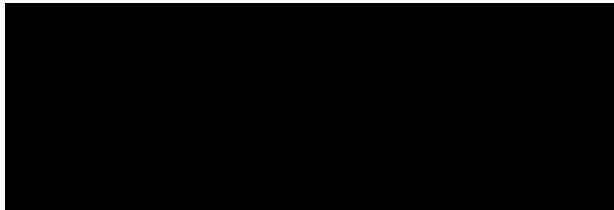
Dear Colleague

## **Public Accountability Board**

You are invited to the next Public Accountability Board which will be held on **Monday 7th November 2022** at **2.30 pm** at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Carbrook Hall Road, Carbrook, Sheffield, S9 2EG.

The agenda and supporting papers are attached.

Yours sincerely



Michelle Buttery  
Chief Executive and Solicitor

Enc.

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**MONDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2022**

### **AGENDA**

	<b>Item</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>1</b>	Welcome and Apologies	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
<b>2</b>	Filming Notification	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
	<p>This meeting is being filmed as part of our commitment to make Public Accountability Board meetings more accessible to the public and our other stakeholders. The meeting will be streamed live on our You Tube channel (SYPCC Media) and will be recorded and uploaded via You Tube to our website (<a href="https://southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/">https://southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/</a>) where it can be viewed at a later date.</p> <p>The OPCC operates in accordance with the Data Protection Act. Data collected during the filming will be retained in accordance with the OPCC's published policy.</p> <p>Therefore by entering the meeting room, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for publication on our website and/or training purposes.</p>		
<b>3</b>	Announcements	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
<b>4</b>	Public Questions	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
<b>5</b>	Urgent Items	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
<b>6</b>	Items to be considered in the absence of the public and press – There are no items	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
	THAT, using the principles identified under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, as amended, or that they		

	Item		Page
	are otherwise operationally sensitive or would attract an exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.		
7	Declarations of Interest	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
8	Minutes of the meeting of the Public Accountability Board held on 14 October 2022	Dr A Billings	5 - 16
9	Matters Arising/Actions	Dr A Billings	17 - 18
	<b>FORCE PERFORMANCE</b>		
10	Rotherham District Summary Update	L Kosciwicz	19 - 46
11	Force Performance Against the Police and Crime Plan 2022-2025 - Protecting Vulnerable People	R Alton	47 - 58
12	Force Performance Against the Police and Crime Plan 2022-2025 - Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour	R Alton/ L Butterfield	59 - 76
13	SYP's Quarterly Budget Monitoring Overview	D Carrington	77 - 86
	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORTING</b>		
14	PCC's Strategic Planning Timetable	M BATTERY	Verbal Report
15	PCC Decisions	M BATTERY	87 - 90
16	Work Programme	M BATTERY	91 - 94
	<b>ASSURANCE PANEL REPORTING</b>		
17	IEP Assurance Report	M Lewis	95 - 96
18	Any Other Business To be notified at the beginning of the meeting	All	Verbal Report
	Date and Time of Next Meeting		
19	12 December 2022 at 2pm at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Carbrook House, Carbrook Hall Road, Carbrook, Sheffield, S9 2EG		

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## SOUTH YORKSHIRE'S POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

### PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER 2022

PRESENT: Dr A Billings (Chair)  
M Buttery (Chief Executive & Solicitor, OPCC)  
S Abbott (Chief Finance Officer, OPCC)  
F Topliss (Engagement and Communications Manager, OPCC)  
S Parkin (Governance and Compliance Manager, OPCC)  
L Poultney (Chief Constable, SYP)  
T Forber (Deputy Chief Constable, SYP)  
J Bland (Director of Resourcing, SYP)  
R Alton (Temporary Assistance Chief Constable, SYP)  
L Butterfield (Temporary Assistance Chief Constable, SYP)  
D Carrington, Chief Finance Officer  
B Kemp (Superintendent, Sheffield, SYP)  
I Proffitt (Chief Superintendent, Doncaster, SYP)  
G Jones (Head of VRU)  
S Wragg (Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee)  
M Lewis (Interim Chair of the Independent Ethics Panel)

APOLOGIES: C Goodwin, E Redfearn, K Wright, E Parkinson, D Hartley and A Fletcher.

#### 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Commissioner welcomed those who had attended the meeting, including Temporary Assistant Chief Constables L Butterfield and R Alton.

He informed the Board that this meeting brings together the September and October meetings. The September meeting had been cancelled because of the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II.

#### 2 FILMING NOTIFICATION

The Commissioner confirmed that the meeting was being streamed live on You Tube (SYPCC Media) and was being recorded and uploaded via You Tube to the website ([www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/](http://www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/)) where it can be viewed at a later date.

#### 3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

#### 4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

#### 5 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

6 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

There were no items to be considered in the absence of the public and press.

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

8 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.

9 MATTERS ARISING/ACTIONS

There were no outstanding matters arising/actions.

10 SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SUMMARY UPDATE

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide a brief update in relation to local operationally based delivery of the Police and Crime Plan in Sheffield, in line with the Commissioner's reporting requirements.

The Commissioner informed the Board that he provides certain items which he would like covering in the report, but he did not want to dictate the full content of the report. He thanked B Kemp for mentioning the items that had been raised.

The Commissioner highlighted a piece of correspondence he had received from the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Sioned-Mair Richards in relation to the Manor Castle and drug use in the amphitheatre. B Kemp confirmed that SYP had seen spikes of anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the area. SYP has been working closely with partners to address this. There are barriers around reporting incidents in a timely manner. Engagement with local communities has been taking place to address this and a WhatsApp group has also been established. CCTV is also in place.

The Commissioner enquired whether offences were being caused by local people. B Kemp confirmed that officers believe it is people travelling from other areas of Sheffield and beyond.

The Commissioner acknowledged that the 'Tramlines' event had gone well. B Kemp confirmed this was down to Chief Inspectors Ferguson and Bradley who had worked closely with Sheffield City Council (SCC).

The Commissioner highlighted the increase in demand and enquired whether there was a reason for this. B Kemp acknowledged that incident demand had increased through the summer months. This has been in part due to the number of events taking place. T Forber acknowledged the challenge over the summer and highlighted the 'Summer Surge' plans SYP had in place to address this. He highlighted how proud the Senior Command Team are of its officers.

The Chief Constable acknowledged the rise in demand and confirmed this was not just in Sheffield but was a national issue. The police service has seen its

highest number of 999 calls over the summer, not helped by the heatwave. There is always an increase in demand over the summer because people are off school and work. SYP has also had the fires this year which has added to the increase in demand. Demand has been artificially suppressed over the last couple of years because of the Covid-19 global pandemic.

The Commissioner referred to an article in The Star from a member of the public in relation to stabbings and muggings in the city centre. B Kemp confirmed that this issue was the focus of part of the night-time economy plan. It is a comprehensive plan with over 50 dedicated officers deployed on a Friday and Saturday night. This has resulted in a reduction in robberies. T Forber highlighted the investment in neighbourhood policing resulting in an increased visible police presence.

The Commissioner enquired about Sheffield's plan for dark nights. B Kemp confirmed that robust plans with partners are in place. Work is taking place with partners to put on diversionary activities. Each of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams has allocated staff to work on the plans.

The Commissioner enquired about the large shipping containers seen on Fargate. B Kemp confirmed that this was an SCC initiative with a commercial entity to regenerate the area. The initial plan was to have a safe space where vulnerable people could go and receive support. The plans for the safe space have been temporarily put on hold. The containers will go live later this month, but they are to be re-located. These are part of a longer-term plan involving outside eaters.

The Commissioner acknowledged the 62% positive outcome rate for stop and search in the city and enquired whether this was accurate. B Kemp confirmed that it was. SYP is proactive in targeting the city centre. A passive drugs dog is also used.

The Commissioner asked whether public engagement is undertaken by neighbourhood policing teams. B Kemp confirmed that it is neighbourhood police officers and PCSOs. He highlighted that 'one size does not fit all'. 'A brew with a bobby' works in some areas but not all. A range of measures are available, and these are being closely monitored.

The Commissioner enquired about interactive patrols. B Kemp informed the Board that officers post their route and telephone numbers online so that people can come and see them. This provides reassurance and has received good feedback.

The Commissioner asked if this also took place in Doncaster. I Proffitt informed the Board that officers in Doncaster also share where they will be patrolling, but this is limited to certain areas. Some areas in Doncaster are too large but, as officer numbers increase, this will become easier.

The Domestic Abuse (DA) pilot was highlighted. This has been approved by the Senior Command Team. The team will work with the DA investigation team to focus on an identified cohort of repeat DA victims and perpetrators who fall outside of existing processes.

The Commissioner acknowledged the higher than average workloads in Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) and asked about the current position. B Kemp confirmed that Sheffield is starting to see an increase in specially trained

officers. This is an improving picture.

The Commissioner highlighted 'Operation Makesafe', where the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) team had visited and engaged with 17 local hotels. He enquired whether there were still hotels which take in refugees and, if so, whether they are included in Operation Makesafe. B Kemp said there are hotels which still take in refugees, but they are not included in Operation Makesafe. Operation Makesafe aims to educate staff to spot the signs of exploitation. The Chief Constable confirmed that protecting refugees is a different issue.

The Commissioner enquired whether the Neighbourhood Crime Investigation team was new. B Kemp confirmed that it was. This allows for continuity of investigations at key times.

Residential burglaries were highlighted. The Commissioner enquired whether SYP attended every burglary. B Kemp confirmed in the main they did. There are some exceptions. SYP's policy is that all residential properties are offered a home visit.

The Commissioner highlighted the low outcome rate for theft from motor vehicles and enquired why this was. B Kemp said that these are usually opportunistic crimes with limited forensic opportunities and low intelligence. SYP is adopting more of a problem-solving approach with partners by increasing the use of signs and CCTV. Improvements have been seen, but this remains a challenge.

M Buttery enquired SYP is being deluged by records from ring doorbells from members of the public trying to help. B Kemp confirmed that the use of ring doorbells and CCTV was not consistent and depended on the area. Sheffield district is working with the university on a piece of research, and this includes giving ring doorbells to people in some areas.

B Kemp highlighted technology that is available to enable members of the public to download CCTV. This can be uploaded to a link and sent to the relevant people in SYP. This is manageable and provides efficiencies.

The Commissioner highlighted the two young girls who had been exploited by an organised crime group (OCG). B Kemp highlighted that several OCGs had been removed from Sheffield. Young people are being used as a commodity and Sheffield district has a new team looking at this.

B Kemp highlighted that, within Sheffield and the wider force, there is a real focus on having a problem-solving approach, and this is starting to deliver.

The Chief Constable confirmed that problem-solving continues to be developed as an approach. SYP has won a national problem-solving award for Operation Grow at the Tilley Awards and has been put forward for the overall Tilley Award winner.

The Commissioner thanked B Kemp for his comprehensive answers.

## 11 DONCASTER DISTRICT SUMMARY UPDATE

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide a brief update in relation to local operationally based delivery of the Police and Crime Plan in Doncaster, in line with the



Commissioner's reporting requirements.

The Commissioner highlighted that, from 26 September 2022, Doncaster will see the first cohort of trainee officers fully signed off. He asked if this could be explained. I Proffitt informed the Board that previous training had involved more on the job learning. Now, because of the complexity of policing, the training programme has quite rightly changed. Trainee officers spend more time at university and come into force to do rotations in specific areas based on a scale of competency. Despite the challenges the training programme has brought, districts will now start to see an increase in officers.

The Commissioner noted that Doncaster, like Sheffield, had seen an increase in demand. I Proffitt confirmed that there had been an increase in demand in Doncaster, the force and regionally.

The Commissioner highlighted that the number of "active" and "unallocated" incidents had decreased in August 2022. He enquired what "active" and "unallocated" meant. "Active" is where an incident has been allocated to an available resource and "unallocated" is where a resource is not yet available. There has been a large volume where Doncaster has not been able to resource within normal response times.

It was acknowledged that there will always be times when there are not enough officers. Resourcing is not linear and there is an overlap of officers at peak demand.

The Commissioner highlighted that Doncaster's response time for priority incidents between June and August averaged at 1 hour and 15 minutes, whereas Sheffield's was 1 hour. I Proffitt acknowledged this and highlighted the size of Doncaster. Doncaster has a smaller population but is larger geographically. The road network is also difficult to negotiate. Doncaster's average response time to emergency incidents is 15 minutes. Doncaster hopes to improve on this.

The Commissioner commented that he was pleased to see information on culture. This is of interest to the Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) which is undertaking some working with SYP on this. He enquired what had been the findings from the culture and leadership workshops. I Proffitt highlighted the Values Framework and confirmed that this carries through to how SYP deals with the public. He confirmed that SYP has well motivated staff. SYP's workforce is becoming increasingly new, and it is important that SYP set the right culture. The service to the public is about putting the victim first.

I Proffitt highlighted the importance of sergeants.

Doncaster district is also looking at wellbeing. SYP need to look after its people to ensure SYP looks after the public.

The Commissioner enquired about the Central Assessment and Practice Education (CAPE) team. This is a dedicated team which helps to develop staff outside of an educational environment. The team assesses the work of staff and makes sure they achieve their core competencies.

T Forber confirmed that officers learn by doing the job whilst being supervised. There is a robust process before officers are deemed fully competent.

The Commissioner referred to the Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment Team and enquired whether the team is permanent or just for a short period of time. I

Proffitt informed the Board that the team had been established to respond to the demand over the summer. The team has now been disbanded, but this will continue to be monitored and will be put back in place if required. Doncaster still has an investigation team.

The Commissioner queried whether the increase was because of the change in definition of what constitutes DA. I Proffitt confirmed the increase was a combination of both, but the trend was more consistent with the time of year.

The Commissioner enquired if the Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator was specific to Doncaster. I Proffitt confirmed that it is. This will enable Doncaster district to increase its problem-solving approach.

Domestic Abuse Protection Orders (DVPO) breaches were highlighted. The Commissioner acknowledged the increase in breaches from 27 to 74 and enquired whether this was as a result of proactive work. I Proffitt confirmed that it was. He highlighted that DVPOs are a useful piece of legislation when there is insufficient evidence to charge a perpetrator and provide protection to a victim.

The Commissioner enquired about the volume of domestic abuse repeat offenders and victims where the prosecution is not supported by the victim. I Proffitt commented that a percentage rate was difficult. There are complex factors and reasons why victims will not support a prosecution. There are examples where cases are taken to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) despite victims not supporting a case. Evidence can include the use of body worn video, the initial response from the victim and evidence found at the scene. Successful cases are used to inform the workforce.

The Commissioner asked whether many victims ask about Clare's Law. SYP receives constant requests under the 'right to ask'. The 'right to know' requires officers to be more proactive. SYP do inform potential victims. L Butterfield confirmed there is a clear process in place to manage the application of Clare's Law.

M Buttery enquired whether the changes to the domestic abuse legislation, and resource implications, was included in SYP's horizon scanning. J Bland confirmed that this was discussed at SYP's Demand Board. DCC Forber added that such horizon scanning would also be done as part of the work of the new Futures Board and would feature in SYP's preparation of its Force Management Statement.

The Commissioner highlighted the review of Doncaster's structures to improve its response to CSE, CCE and County Lines. He enquired whether there would be a report. R Alton confirmed the review was coming to fruition and would be presented to the Tactical Change Board.

The Commissioner highlighted the 33% increase in recorded drug offences. I Proffitt confirmed this is positive and is a result of proactive activity.

Hate crime was highlighted. The Commissioner commented that a member of his office had attended the Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel and highlighted that a lot of the people reporting hate crime were under the age of 16. I Proffitt confirmed that this is a trend SYP recognises. There has been a drop in reporting over the summer and it is thought that this is because the schools are closed. A large amount of work has taken place with partners and schools to raise awareness

and educate young people.

I Proffitt highlighted the use of a dedicated database to manage missing from home episodes. The system ensures regular and thorough reviews by supervisors and senior management, dependent on the risk to the individual and prevailing circumstances. In Doncaster, there are currently three dedicated 'Missing from Home' Officers to support the Response function. A new team is under development which will see a three-fold increase of officers and will be led by a dedicated Sergeant. This team will provide a multi-agency problem solving approach and provide more resilience to tackle the volume of missing episodes and provide an improved quality of investigation from the outset.

## 12 FORCE PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2021 - 2024 - TREATING PEOPLE FAIRLY

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the progress against the 'Treating People Fairly' priority of the Police and Crime Plan, 'Safer Streets More Police 2022-2025' to support the Commissioner's overarching aim of South Yorkshire being a safe place in which to live, learn, work and travel.

The Commissioner highlighted the percentage of Special Constables from an ethnic minority and enquired whether SYP knew why this was higher than for police officers, police staff and volunteers. T Forber highlighted that this is based on a small number of Special Constables they have, but this is being looked at.

Exit interviews was highlighted as an issue. The Commissioner enquired whether line management as a reason for leaving was disappointing. T Forber said it was concerning, but this is why SYP is investing in the Leadership Academy. Much of the training for sergeants disappeared during austerity and sergeants learnt how to supervise by peer observation. SYP has invested in the last 18 months to remedy this.

J Bland highlighted the proactive work that had taken place on exit interviews. Only a proportion of leavers choose to take an exit interview, but the information enables SYP to target specific areas, such as leadership.

The Commissioner highlighted the organisational culture and the work of the IEP. M Lewis acknowledged the investment in training. He highlighted the work the IEP had conducted in 2016, which had identified the difficulty sergeants and inspectors had in managing their own staff when dealing with a high workload. He confirmed that to hear that SYP is strengthening this is a mark of progress.

The Commissioner highlighted the sickness absence rate. This stops in June 2022 before the summer surge. T Forber confirmed that he was not aware of any issues after June. I Proffitt commented that short term sickness figures feel about right.

The Commissioner expressed concern about an exhausted workforce. T Forber acknowledged this. There has been very little breathing space for officers following the Covid-19 pandemic, but sickness is not a concern. He highlighted that, whilst the public will see the benefit from the increase in officers, so will colleagues.

Resource allocation was highlighted. The Chief Constable confirmed that the previous resource allocation formula relied more heavily on professional

judgement. Business Change and Innovation are currently looking at a more scientific based formula.

T Forber acknowledged that public perception is driven by visibility. SYP's professional judgement is that SYP would like more resources in PVP, but this is not seen by the public.

The Commissioner highlighted the reduction in the percentage of victims who reported being satisfied with the whole experience for ASB. T Forber acknowledged that this is disappointing because of the investment made in neighbourhood policing. This is being looked at.

The Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Independent Advisory Group was highlighted. The Commissioner enquired whether any groups were not represented, for example elderly women. The Chief Constable confirmed that she is happy with the representation but acknowledged that age is interesting. This had not been flagged as a gap and people from community groups tended to be older, but this would be considered.

The Commissioner acknowledged that SYP is wanting to recruit more people from black communities and young people to the External Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel. He suggested that SYP take the Panel to where black communities and young people are, rather than expecting them to come to SYP.

T Forber confirmed that the use of body worn video and the administration around the stop and search forms are still gaps. SYP is working on addressing these.

**It was agreed that:**

- **SYP would consider the age group of representatives on the Violence Against Women and Girls**

13 LRF ACHIEVEMENTS

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF) achievements in 2021/22.

L Lynskey informed the Board that LRFs are multiagency partnerships, aligned to policing areas, which bring together representatives from the local organisations needed to plan and prepare for major emergencies.

L Lynskey assured the Commissioner that South Yorkshire partners have seen a real benefit from the LRF.

An exercise that took place on Monday, 10 October 2022 involving police, ambulance and fire services, as well as 'specialist counter-terrorism resources' was highlighted. The exercise involved a cyber-attack, and it is thought that this is the first time this type of exercise has taken place. The exercise allowed SYP and the LRF to ensure they are as prepared as possible, should an incident occur.

T Forber confirmed that the exercise went well. Each partner had different objectives. The debriefing has now commenced.

The Commissioner commented that he had attended the exercise and had been intrigued by the use of drones. T Forber confirmed that SYP has invested in a

drone programme.

T Forber highlighted the support SYP received from the LRF during the flooding which was invaluable.

The Commissioner enquired whether a lot of desk top exercises take place. T Forber confirmed that they did.

14 TREATING PEOPLE FAIRLY: EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION  
RESPONSE TO THE REPORT FROM SHEFFIELD'S RACE EQUALITY  
COMMISSIONER

A report of the Chief Executive & Solicitor was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was:

- a) To provide a strategic overview of PCC/OPCC action in relation to the 'Treating People Fairly: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion' (EDI) element of the Police and Crime Plan; and
- b) To explain how the 'Proportionality and Equity in Crime and Justice' recommendation and actions, identified in the recent Sheffield Race Equality Commission report (as well other recommendations for those anchor institutions of which South Yorkshire Police (SYP) is one) fit within these existing plans.

M Buttery informed the Board that the report would have been timelier as it was planned to come in September, but for the cancellation of PAB.

The report sets out the statutory responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), the work the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the work of the Independent Ethics Panel (IEP).

The work of the OPCC and IEP complements work needed in response to the Sheffield Race Equality Commission report published in June 2022.

M Buttery informed the Board that the current activity in the OPCC had started following the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd in the USA.

The Sheffield Race Equality Commission report included recommendations and actions for 'anchor institutions' cited in the report (of which SYP is one), and for others more widely including the PCC and the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).

At the launch of the report there was mention that Sheffield City Council (SCC) would establish a 'Legacy Board'. The PCC has stated publicly that he is fully committed to supporting this.

The delay in establishing the 'Legacy Board' has not stopped the PCC, OPCC and SYP in progressing work they were already doing.

M Lewis confirmed that disproportionality runs through all the work of the IEP and highlighted the IEP's frustration with the outdated 2011 Census data.

M Lewis highlighted the External Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel. This does include some members from ethnic minorities, but not enough. There is a high level of awareness by SYP that the biggest challenge is involving people from ethnic minority backgrounds to ensure they are part of the solution.

15 STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

A report of the Chief Executive & Solicitor was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an overview of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) annual strategic and financial planning process in relation to reviewing the Police and Crime Plan (2022-25) and setting a supporting budget and council tax precept for financial year 2023/24.

Each PCC has a statutory responsibility to issue a policing and crime plan to cover his/her term of office, which sets priorities for the local area. PCCs also hold the police fund and other grants from central government, and the PCC sets the policing element of the council tax precept for his/her area.

M Buttery highlighted the strategic and financial planning timetable which was agreed a few months' ago.

The PCC holds a monthly Planning & Efficiency Group (PEG) which oversees the strategic and financial planning process.

PEG is in two parts; the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) PEG and PEG with SYP.

A number of products are requested from SYP based on policing need, current and future demand and what the public is telling them about the service requirement. A range of options are then presented to the PCC by the Chief Constable as to how SYP's planned expenditure will be kept within available resources.

M Buttery highlighted that the rising cost of living and economic situation is going to mean that budget-setting will be challenging this year.

The OPCC is preparing to consult with the public on the level of council tax precept they are willing to pay and the policing service they will receive in return.

The final precept proposal will then be presented to the Police and Crime Panel in February 2023.

The Commissioner highlighted the uncertainty around the policing settlement and other budget assumptions that have been made due to the changes in central government.

16 PCC DECISIONS

A report of the Chief Executive & Solicitor was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide the Board with a record of key decisions taken by the Commissioner outside of this Board since the last PAB meeting.

M Buttery highlighted that a number of decisions related to services to respond to sexual offences.

17 WORK PROGRAMME

M Buttery highlighted that there would be two Force Performance Reports at the November meeting because of the September meeting being cancelled.

HMICFRS is about to start a thematic inspection of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). The CSE Update is therefore being moved to March next year when SYP

will have the findings from the inspection and a chance to update on any activity to be undertaken as a result.

18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - TO BE NOTIFIED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING

There were no items of any other business.

19 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 7 November at 3pm at Carbrook House.

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MATTERS ARISING / ACTIONS

Ref	Date of meeting	Matter arising/action	Update	Owner	Complete (Y/N)
439	14/10/22	SYP would consider the age group of representatives on the Violence Against Women and Girls		T Forber	

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# Item 10

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD OF THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Rotherham District Performance Report</b>
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>Chief Constable Lauren Poultney</b>

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Rotherham Command Team is committed to improving service delivery and outcomes for the people of Rotherham and to supporting their staff to do the same. This report will outline the activity that is ongoing to support these continual improvements.

To deliver this service, the district has identified its aim to keep people safe, uphold standards, deliver an excellent service and to improve victim satisfaction and public confidence. To support this, a firm commitment has been made in Rotherham to work with partners and the public, building on the current neighbourhood policing structure and partnership co-location model which has proved successful in a number of areas of business.

As evidenced in this report, Rotherham has a one-team approach to local concerns and crime investigation. We seek to respond to immediate concerns of our community but deliver long term solutions that deliver sustainable improvements. This is seen through our partnership problem solving approach to ASB in the Town Centre and Dinnington and neighbourhood crime in Maltby. Our agreed approach to problem solving with all our partners allows us to respond to a wide range of issues; allowing the best placed partner to lead on the relevant areas of the plan to deliver a holistic solution.

Over Q1 we have continued to see an increase in demand for our officers. Despite resourcing challenges, as a result of people retiring or transferring to other posts across South Yorkshire and the wider region, we have been able to flex our resourcing capability to continue to deliver for the community. We know that resourcing will become less of a concern as new recruits who are currently in training begin to return to district on a permanent basis from September 2022. We continually review resourcing in the short and medium term to ensure we're able to meet the demands placed upon us.

#### **Protecting Vulnerable People**

Domestic abuse remains a clear priority for the district. Rotherham ensures a quick and timely response to calls for service, we have ensured the Domestic Abuse Team (DAT) has been fully staffed; despite challenges regarding resources and also maximised opportunities to up-skill our new recruits/young officers in the investigation of domestic abuse. Despite an increase in crimes we have seen our overall arrest rate remain static and have seen an increase in arrest rate for our highest harm offenders. We continue to focus on prevention and safeguarding those at risk of domestic abuse through a proactive use of Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders (DVPN/Os) and use of Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS, also known as Clares Law).

We have seen an increase in the number of people detained under section 136 of the Mental Health Act through Q1. This is a similar trend to the one seen 12 months ago but with a slightly higher number of instances. We have good working relationships with our colleagues in mental health services and utilise the tools available to us in order to ensure individuals get the most appropriate help at the right time. This includes our use of the dedicated mental health nurse in our Safer Neighbourhoods Service (SNS) department and our officers increased use of the triage service. We

continue to be committed to ensuring that those in crisis get the support they need at the earliest opportunity.

### Tackling Crime and Anti-social Behaviour

While incident demand has remained stable when compared to Quarter 4 (Q4) 21/22, we saw a spike in incidents in May 2022; our second highest number of incidents in a 12 month period. Approximately half of our demand remains 'public safety and welfare' and the slight increase in crime recorded incidents from Q3 to Q4 appears to have stabilised.

Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) has increased slightly from a 2 year low in Q4 but still remains low across Rotherham. ASB remains one of the main focuses of our Neighbourhood Policing Teams, particularly around their problem-solving work. This report highlights work done across the District by our dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) to tackle ASB which affects the life quality of our communities. We have multi-agency work on-going in Eastwood, Swinton, Cortonwood, Dinnington and Maltby amongst others. This is supported by dedicated days of action such as Operation Duxford, which took place on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and saw 17 arrests for a variety of offences.

### Treating People Fairly

Currently Rotherham has a vacancy rate of 12.2%, which is an increase of 1.0%. As previously reported South Yorkshire Police is going through a period where it will see an uplift in officers, which will reduce our vacancy factor in due course as we end this year and move into 2023. We now know this up lift will start to take effect from September 2022; however, the greatest impact will come in February/March 2023, when many students return from university. Work is currently being conducted to ensure the benefit of these officers is maximised for service delivery to the public.

The mind set of our officers and staff is key to ensuring our public receive the service rightly expected and deserved, one of the key measures for success in Rotherham is our victim satisfaction. It is pleasing to report that Rotherham victim satisfaction remains high at 74%. The follow-up experience of victims is an area we have identified as being the consistent area of concern for victims and an area we need to improve.

## **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

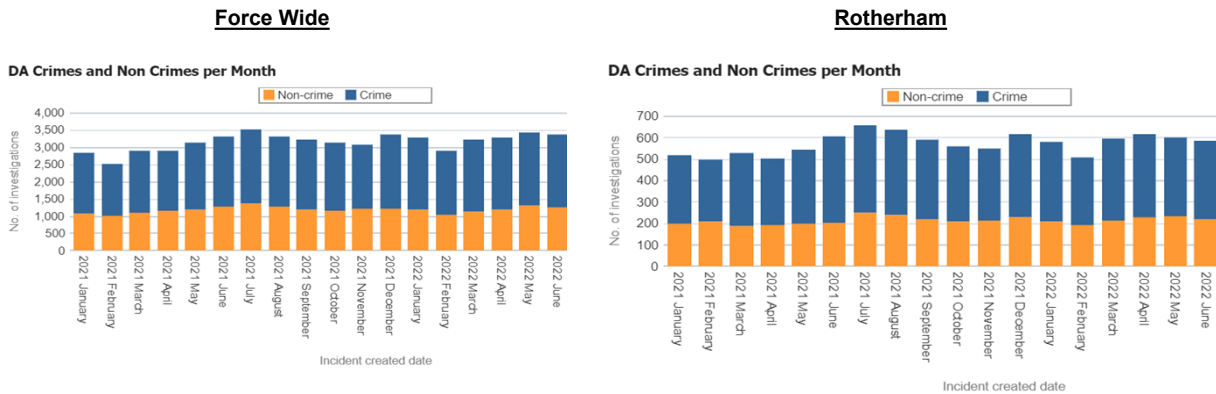
- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to reassure the communities of Rotherham that the police are working to deliver the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan and to demonstrate activity undertaken and planned to continuously improve the service delivered.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

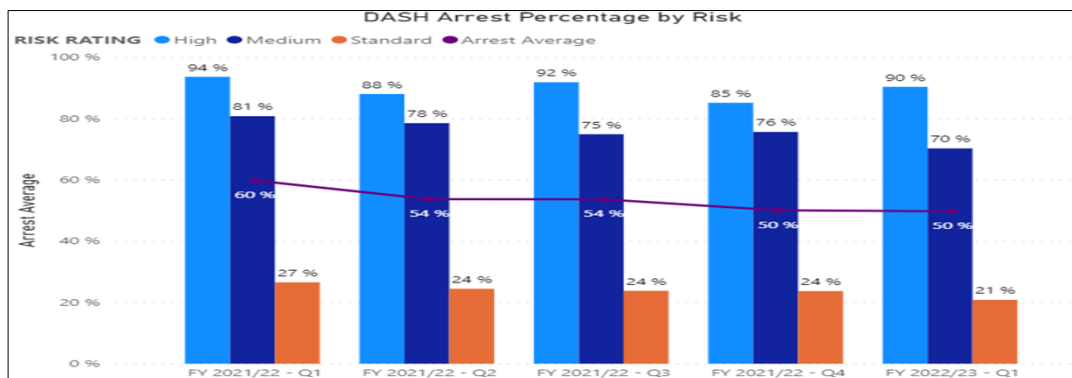
- 2.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is recommended to consider the content of this report on behalf of the public in Rotherham and across South Yorkshire.

### 3. PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

#### 3.1 Domestic Abuse

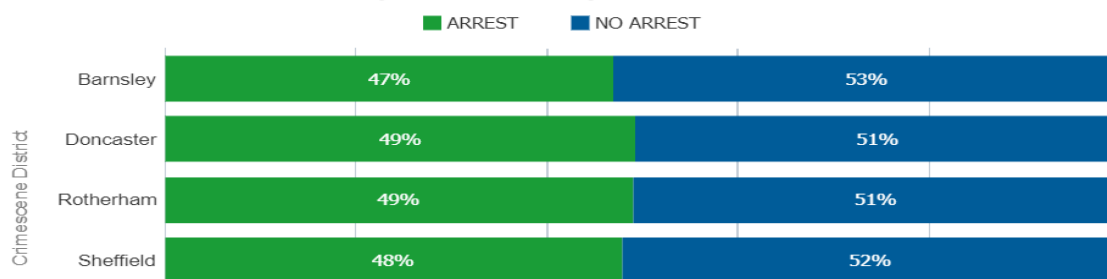


- 3.1.1 It can be seen above that reports of domestic abuse (DA) across Rotherham followed the Force trend. The total DA volumes in Q1 increased by 8% compared to Q4, the normal seasonal increase leading up to the peak Summer months and Q1 2022/23 was 8% higher than Q1 2021/22.
- 3.1.2 For the 12 months to June 2022 there has been an 8 % increase in DA volumes versus the same 12-month period last year. These increase in total DA volumes have been seen across all districts.
- 3.1.3 Rotherham continue to monitor and respond to the changes in DA demand. New legislation has been brought in throughout 2022 and will continue to have affect into 2023. These changes are expected to bring about an increased number of DA crimes as the definition expands and also bring about new processes which the police can use to protect victims. We are engaged with the Force lead to ensure we implement these changes swiftly and effectively.
- 3.1.4 Through the Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP), there is a continued focus on domestic abuse making sure all agencies work together to ensure victims/survivors have the confidence to come forward and report abuse. We continue to engage with our partners to identify new ways to address perpetrators of DA including new pilot schemes and a joint response plan with police and Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs).
- 3.1.5 Rotherham ensures that when a report is received into the district, resources prioritise initial attendance to ensure early support for the victim/survivor, maximise any opportunity to gather evidence quickly relating to the offence, and seek the early arrest of any identified suspect/offender.

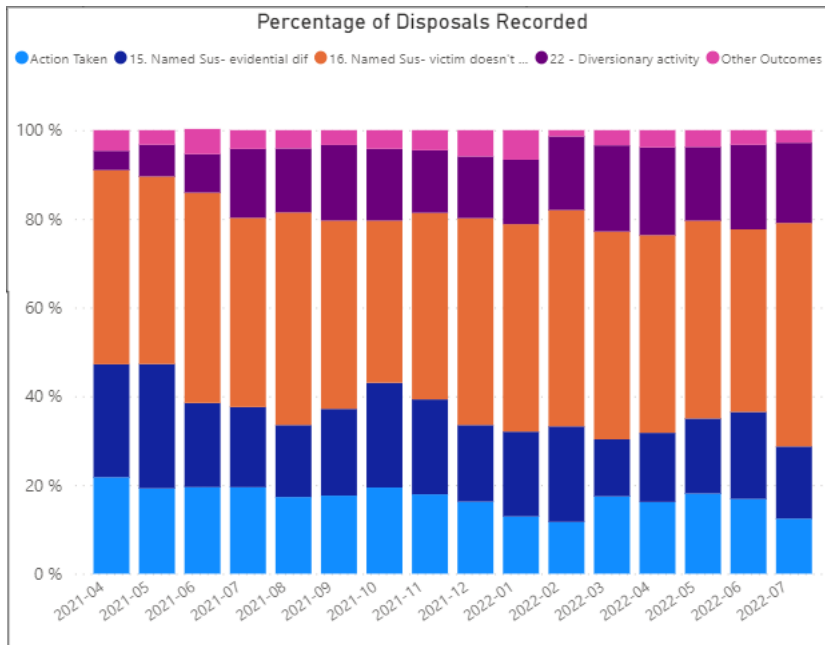


- 3.1.6 The above chart illustrates the current arrest rate per risk assessment level in Rotherham. Rotherham's overall arrest rate has remained at 50% with no change from Q4 which is in line with the Force average. For high-risk cases, the arrest rate has increased from 85% in Q4 to 90% in Q1. This focus on our highest risk offenders is key for all our staff across the District and is monitored through our daily management meetings. The Medium risk arrest rate has decreased to 70% in Q1 from 76% in Q4. This has been identified as an area of risk and we continue to work with our officers to improve this.
- 3.1.7 Force-wide analysis of arrest timeliness indicates a stable trend of those made within 24hrs of a report being received, with most of these within a few hours. Rotherham data shows that 49% of arrests are made within 24hrs. The timeliness of arrest is vital in protecting victims and preventing further offences.

**Domestic Crimes Recorded in Specified Period, by Arrest Status and District**



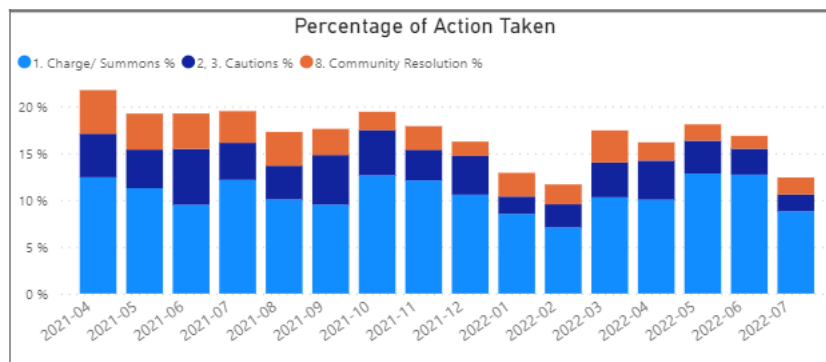
- 3.1.8 Rotherham have led on implementing dedicated days of action focusing on the arrest of outstanding DA perpetrators. This involves resourcing from across the District looking to locate our outstanding suspects with support from Force resources. This has since been implemented at all District across the Force with positive results.
- 3.1.9 All high-risk and intimate partner medium risk investigations are managed by the specialist Domestic Abuse Team (DAT) in Rotherham. Officers work with partner agencies, which include the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) to support victims and build their confidence as the investigative process progresses. Standard risk investigations are often progressed by our Response Teams, and where appropriate our Neighbourhood Teams (repeat victims).
- 3.1.10 Due to the risk involved in DA investigations, and in conjunction with the new Police Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) student pathway, we continually seek to maximise opportunities for our officers to improve their investigation skills and understanding of DA. Rotherham now has a well-established three-month rotation of Response Officers coming into DAT. Feedback from officers has been consistently good, ensuring they develop new skills that they can utilise on returning to their teams.
- 3.1.11 Building on current success, the DAT has recently reengaged with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to establish a pilot process to provide a better service to our victims. Where cases meet the evidential threshold Rotherham officers are now able to refer their investigations directly to a dedicated, specialist DA lawyer for review. This work builds on previous work with the CPS on improving officer understanding of evidence led prosecutions (those cases where the victim doesn't engage in the criminal justice process through fear).



3.1.12 The above charts shows the percentage of disposals recorded in Rotherham. The outcomes for domestic abuse in Rotherham had an increase in action taken rate from 14% in Q4 to 17% in Q1.

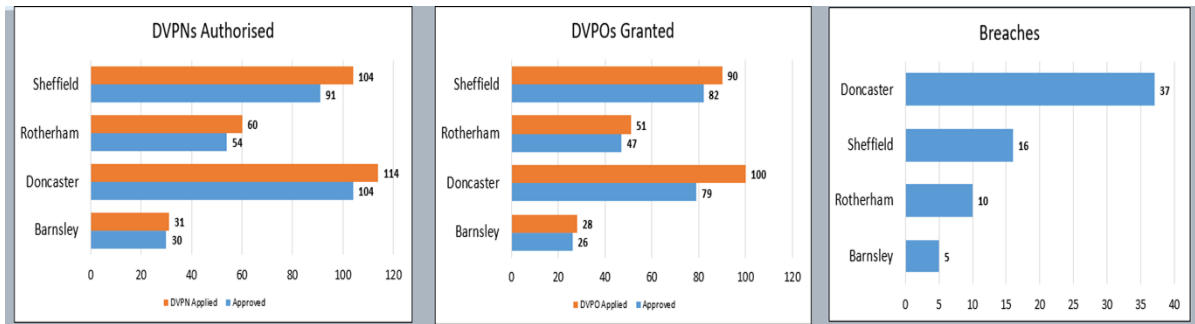
3.1.13 For all other outcomes Q1 results remained at similar levels to Q4, with outcome 16 victim does not support accounting for the largest proportion at 43% (rest of the force 49%).

3.1.14 Diversionary activates accounted for 19% of all Q1 outcomes, just above 17% for the force.



3.1.15 The above charts show the action taken across the force and Rotherham. In Q1 Rotherham's charge/summons rate increased from 9% in Q4 to 12% in Q1 to drive the overall action taken rate increase, in July the charge/summons was 9%

3.1.16 Officers have a duty and responsibility to take steps to ensure victims feel safe and, where the investigations have not resulted in an action taken outcome, officers should look towards additional risk reduction measures e.g. a Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN). Rotherham has had 54 DVPNs approved in the last quarter with 47 being granted by Court as full Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs).



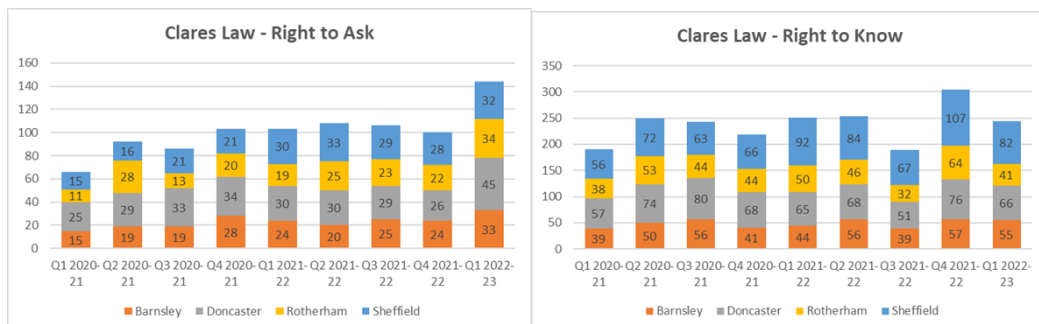
3.1.17 These notices and orders may be used following a domestic incident where violence has been used or threatened to provide short-term protection to the victim where there is insufficient evidence to support a prosecution. The process is designed to give breathing space to victims by granting temporary respite from their abuser and allowing referrals to support services without interference.

3.1.18 The DVPN/DVPO process can be pursued without the victim’s active support, or even against their wishes, if this is considered necessary to protect them from violence or threat of violence. The victim also does not have to attend court. This can help by removing responsibility from the victim for taking action against their abuser. If an officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the suspect has breached the DVPN/O, the person should be arrested. The court can order a fine up to a maximum of £5,000 or up to two months’ imprisonment. Of the 47 DVPOs granted by the court Rotherham identified 10 breaches in Q1.

3.1.19 Where a DVPN/DVPO is not appropriate or the conditions are not met, officers utilise other referral mechanisms to address a perpetrators behaviour. This can include alcohol or drug support services or anger management referrals to partners who work with that individual to address their offending behaviour.

### 3.2 Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS)

3.2.1 DVDS requests (also known as Clare’s Law) allow disclosures to be made to victims in relation to the previous offending of a partner. This includes discussions in relation to the threat they may pose and allows the victim to make informed decisions about how to safeguard themselves and/or their family. Disclosure also ensures agencies such as police / social care / Rotherham Rise work together to minimise any ongoing risk. Disclosure can be made by request (Right to Ask), initiated by the victim or their family and friends or by the police and partners (Right to Know).



3.2.2 It can be seen above that there has been a steady increase over the last two years in victims requesting information about their partner’s history, which is a positive trend, and gives reassurance victims/survivors/family/friends are becoming more aware of the process. It can also be seen that disclosures initiated by the police have returned to the norm in Q1 after a spike in disclosures in Q4.

### 3.3 Multi Agency Tasking and Coordinating Process



- 3.3.1 The Multi Agency Tasking and Coordinating (MATAC) process has been introduced for domestic abuse perpetrators; the monthly meeting is attended by partners and chaired by the police. Each month, four new nominals are identified through a risk assessment process. It aims to identify serial perpetrators and address their behaviour; providing support to the wider family.
- 3.3.2 Perpetrators are identified through review of crimes involving domestic abuse. A score is calculated based on the date, frequency, gravity of offences and the number of victims in relation to the abuse. The highest scoring perpetrators are considered for MATAC. Professional judgement is also used to allow exceptions to be considered.
- 3.3.3 Integrated Offender Management (IOM) teams are key in the MATAC process as they conduct the visits with the perpetrators. It has to be recognised that engagement with the process by offenders is voluntary and this is often low. In these cases, further work is undertaken with other partners and the victim to ensure ongoing safeguarding.

### **3.4 Domestic Abuse Key Points**

What is working well:

- 3.4.1 Rotherham DAT are working well at tackling the highest risk offenders, seeking early arrest and best outcome for victim. They take responsibility for safeguarding the victims in partnership with wider agencies.
- 3.4.2 The revised structures within DAT are delivering performance, ensuring the most appropriate outcome for the victim. This is evidenced in the recent, sustained increases in action taken rates

What are we concerned about:

- 3.4.3 While Rotherham action taken rates are improving, the command team believe the quality within some investigations can be further improved e.g., quality of officer statements/statements taken from victims and initial evidence capture (CCTV/House to House).

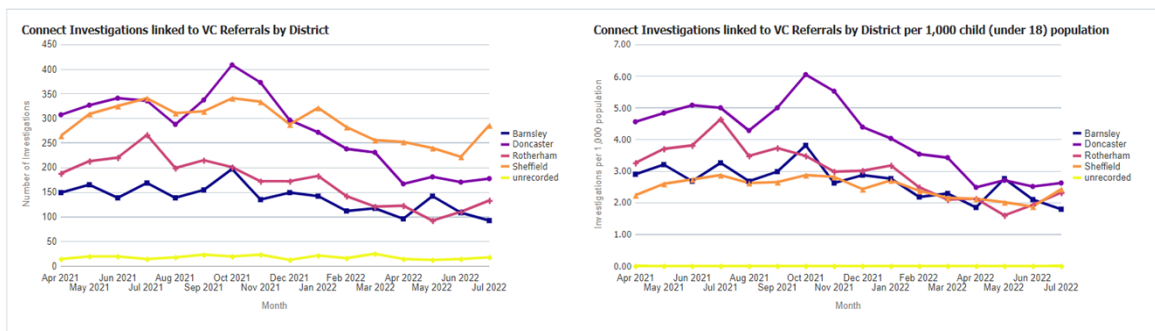
What are we doing about it:

- 3.4.4 In addition to the three-month attachments to the DAT, Rotherham are piloting Quality Assurance Thematic Testing (QATT) for all investigations. This provides a measurable assessment of the quality of an investigation, allowing us the opportunity to identify learning for individuals, teams and the District. We believe that QATT will see us deliver significant improvements in the service we provide to our victims and our communities.

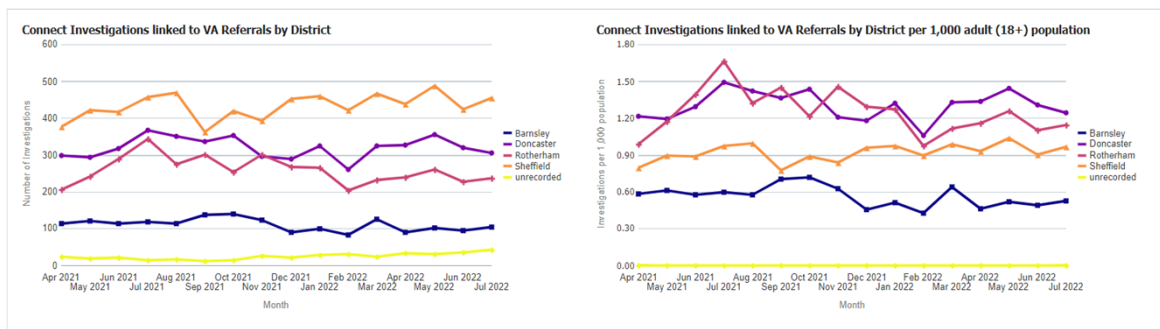
### **3.5 Vulnerable People**

- 3.5.1 Our Protecting Vulnerable Persons (PVP) teams investigate offences against children and vulnerable people. Offences against children can include physical and sexual abuse, child neglect, inappropriate relationships, and criminal and sexual exploitation.
- 3.5.2 Safeguarding of children remains at the front and centre of partnership working across Rotherham. Staffing of our PVP investigation teams has been a priority for the district, this is in respect of both filling posts within the department but also there has been a large push in terms of training and equipping our existing staff to ensure they are fully equipped to carry out this vital role.
- 3.5.3 There is a continued focus on ensuring officers working in safeguarding roles are qualified to a national standard by undergoing training and assessment on the Specialist Child Abuse Investigators Development Program (SCAIDP) and Specialist Sexual Assault Investigators Development Program (SSAIDP).

- 3.5.4 We also have a number of civilian investigation staff who are currently undergoing the PIP (Professionalising the Investigative Process) level 2 qualification, this program trains and equips them to the equivalent standard of that of a Detective Constable. Providing this training to our staff will contribute greatly to our overarching aim of having an appropriately skilled and highly motivated workforce that is fit to meet the demands placed upon it by this sort of investigative work.
- 3.5.5 The tables below shows that there has been a downward trend in vulnerable child referrals since this time last year. This trend has been a Forcewide one, however we have seen a steady increase in Rotherham through Q1.
- 3.5.6 All officers/staff have now been through the Child Matters training, they are fully aware of the importance in ensuring that suitable referrals are submitted when dealing with children, and able to recognise when further intervention is required.



- 3.5.7 The graphs below identify the volume of vulnerable adult referrals coming into the district, again although there has been a small decrease; this is in line with force trends and shows an increase towards the end of Quarter 1 (2022/23).



- 3.5.8 There are robust measures in place to consider the safeguarding and intervention of vulnerable adults within our locality. An establish structure of the Vulnerability pathway means that any adult that has two or more Vulnerable adults' referrals in a three-month period will automatically be referred to our Safer Neighbourhood Services for Assessment which leads to the creation of an Adult Protection investigation on Connect which allows the opportunity for the case to be assessed and an intervention recorded on the system. This process can lead to the person being added to the tasking process that is managed by the geographical neighbourhood team or be allocated to a vulnerability officer for further assessment. This can potentially lead to further interventions, which can include joint visits with mental health and/or adult social care. Once this assessment has taken place if this has been insufficient to reduce the threat, risk and harm then the case can be escalated to a higher forum.
- 3.5.9 Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Meeting (CMARAC) is the next stage in the process, which is a multi-agency meeting, held fortnightly and attended by vulnerability officers from SYP and other statutory organisations including the trauma resilience unit. If further escalation is required then the next stage is the Vulnerable Adult Risk Management Meeting (VARMM) - these are formed for more complex cases that require further

intervention, and this meeting includes the people that are directly involved in the case in question so have the best possible overview and information.

What is working well:

- 3.5.10 The use of the vulnerability pathway at Rotherham - the escalation process has seen some good results to date. For example; we recently escalated a case to the CMARAC due to the complexities of a 64 year old male who was identified as potentially being in the early stages of being cuckooed (controlled in their home, often through vulnerability) by other person's frequenting for drugs and alcohol. The escalation allowed a person focused approach and resulted in Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) disrupting the situation by attending the locality at key times, investigating the concerns and ensuring that interventions were in place by adult social care. From this referral the ASB officer within the SNS applied for a closure order to the property to protect the occupant and a partial closure was granted by the courts.

What are we concerned about:

- 3.5.11 This pathway is really beneficial for escalation of issues however victims don't always engage with the process which limits the options available to police and partners. We have to be mindful of an adults ability to make their own informed decisions even when this presents known risks to them as individuals (where they have capacity). In these circumstances we look at wider opportunities for safeguarding/disruption. In the instance above this led to the partial closure of the premises under the ASB 2014 legislation. This allows us to support the most vulnerable members of our community.

What are we doing about it:

- 3.5.12 By taking a multi-agency approach our vulnerability officer within SNS is able to identify other support services and specialist individuals who can support those at risk. The co-location of our SNS teams with partners ensures they have access to a wide range of support services that can mobilise quickly to support individuals. This support can include housing, social workers and mental health services. Partners can work together to deliver a tailored solution based on the individual's unique needs.

## **3.6 Child Exploitation (CE)**

- 3.6.1 Rotherham has a dedicated child sexual exploitation team. This continues to be a focus for us with a continual need to maintain and improve our response to this sort of offending and the service we provide to safeguard and protect victims of exploitation.
- 3.6.2 We are confident that our investigations are well managed. We take time to work with other services to support victims, build trust and rapport to enable victims to feel able to present their experiences as evidence, or recognise that the actions of perpetrators are not acceptable and are crimes.
- 3.6.3 A great deal of work and specialist knowledge is needed to build bonds of trust with victims of child sexual exploitation and to secure evidence for arrests and prosecutions. We work closely with our partners to ensure we do everything we possibly can to do to support survivors through this.
- 3.6.4 In 2021, a Conservative briefing paper raised concerns on how Rotherham (and the wider partnership) progressed information/intelligence linked to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). An independent review was commissioned with a report on the findings published on the 19th May 2022. The report carried out by independent Chair of Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership Jenny Myers, found that South Yorkshire Police, RMBC and the wider Partnership are 'effective and robust' in their approach to CSE. Demonstrating a strong multi-disciplinary approach when tackling this issue

- 3.6.5 There were four main recommendations from the review which are set out in detail in the report, these covered;
- Induction and training of new councillors to help them gain a greater understanding of safeguarding and the RMBC's and SYP's activities, processes and policies around this.
  - Scrutiny arrangements around this.
  - Continuing efforts to re-build trust and confidence
  - Ensuring the voice of adult survivors is fully heard and represented
- 3.6.6 These recommendations are now being progressed through the Child Exploitation Delivery Group.
- 3.6.7 Rotherham is confident in its awareness campaigns around the exploitation of children, with the next campaign running in October / November 2022 during County Lines intensification week and Safeguarding Awareness Week.
- 3.6.8 This will be use of the existing SYP 'Spot the signs' campaign and use of the Children's society 'Look Closer' campaign. Look Closer is a national partnership campaign with the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre and Children's society, aiming to raise awareness of child exploitation and abuse, with a particular focus on public spaces. The campaign also seeks to challenge assumptions and stereotypes of victimhood and highlights that child exploitation can happen anywhere, and any young person can be a victim.
- 3.6.9 SYP has also currently developed a new child exploitation awareness campaign. Consolidation with different elements within SYP and other key partner stakeholders is ongoing and it is hoped this campaign will be signed off and launched before the end of 2022.
- 3.6.10 After the success of the forcewide roll out Child Matters training around child neglect. SYP has begun the process of developing a further program of bespoke training around child exploitation. It is envisaged this will be delivered to all public facing staff and with the aim of increasing awareness and knowledge around recognising and addressing child exploitation to ensure we are in the strongest possible position to protect children and disrupt and pursue perpetrators.
- 3.6.11 A significant funding commitment from the Clinical Commissioning Group (now ICS) has been received and a multi-agency tasking group formed to progress plans for the content and delivery of this training.
- 3.6.12 To further support the work and information sharing for child exploitation, a number of initiatives are ongoing to both internally to SYP and with partners to drive intelligence submissions. We believe effective intelligence collection is key in terms of disruption and prosecution of perpetrators of child exploitation, these include -
- Creation of training package and partners intel submission form which is covered quarterly at Criminal exploitation tactical group meeting with the intention that representatives from partner agencies cascade train this to their staff.
  - Inputs from Child exploitation officers at Sergeant's away days to drive importance of submissions
  - Revamped briefing site giving details of hotspot locations, children at risk, nominals of concern and detailing intelligence requirement
  - Plans for new weekly email around above information this to go out to district supervisors to drive submissions from frontline staff
  - Hotspots, children at risk, CAWN's and regular exploitation related missing child episodes are also discussed fortnightly with all district inspectors as a standing agenda item at the fortnightly district Threat, Harm & Risk meeting.
  - Information regarding this process and the different methods available to local councillors to submit information to police and MASH were also recently presented at two local councillor member sessions around exploitation that were held earlier this year.

- 3.6.13 A non-recent child sexual exploitation investigation is being conducted by South Yorkshire police in Rotherham. This is a historic, complex investigation, being progressed by Detective Chief Inspector (DCI) Aneela Khalil Khan. The enquiry has been ongoing for some months and resulted from a referral from West Yorkshire Police after disclosures were made to them. This matter is being investigated by South Yorkshire Police as it falls outside the terms of reference for Operation Stovewood with the offences predating 1997.
- 3.6.14 A major incident room has been set up and the enquiry team currently consists of eight full time staff. The investigation has expanded significantly over time and now consists of six adult victims who are actively engaging with the police and has led to the identification of 16 potential suspects. The offences described occurred in the mid 1990's at various locations across Sheffield and Rotherham.
- 3.6.15 The investigation moved into an arrest phase in Q1 and nine of the identified suspects have now been arrested. The investigation is likely to run for a number of months, with good progress being made. SYP are currently engaging with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) requesting a formal review of the evidence within the investigation.

### **3.7 Makesafe**

- 3.7.1 Operation MAKESAFE is a national initiative that originated in South Yorkshire, which is focused on raising awareness of child sexual exploitation within the hotel and leisure industry. Within SYP, we have extended this approach to taxis, takeaways and other vulnerable locations. The operation focuses on training people working within these sectors to be aware of the early warning signs of CSE, encouraging them to report concerns to the police.
- 3.7.2 As detailed in previous reports SYP already instigate regular Makesafe initiatives, recently focusing on hotels, while working with RMBC/Community Safety to conduct assurance visits. Some hotels did not meet the standard expected from the Partnership during these visits, and these hotels are now engaging in more detailed work with their staff to get it right first time.
- 3.7.3 A new national training and support package around Operation Makesafe has been created by the College of Policing. July 2022 saw the launch of this national training package, which SYP have actively contributed in developing.
- 3.7.4 This has provided SYP with a framework and training materials to continue to work in conjunction with RMBC community safety team to carry out engagement work with relevant premises to raise awareness of the signs of exploitation and what action to take should they have concerns.
- 3.7.5 This will build on our existing program of Makesafe activity, as detailed below -
- Joint action with RMBC community safety and licensing – overcoming challenges due to Covid 19 lockdowns
  - Programme of hotel/licensed premises engagement visits
  - Staff training video produced – Public and private versions
  - Posters and literature to accompany for display in staff areas - Based around 'spot the Signs' campaign
  - Seeking signed confirmation from premises that staff have viewed video and materials are being displayed
  - Seeking consent to carry out resilience/response testing

### **3.8 Vulnerable People Key Points**

What is working well:

- 3.8.1 Operation Makesafe ensures hotels and bed/breakfast establishments understand the indicators of child exploitation and know how to report concerns.

3.8.2 DCI Aneela Khalil Khan is leading the investigation for Operation Morph Charlie, which has seen a number of victims engaging, and number of arrests made.

What are we concerned about:

3.8.3 The reduced numbers of qualified detectives across all portfolios remain a challenge, aggravated by some increases in demand. As new officers come into PVP departments focussed training and supervision will be key.

What are we doing about it:

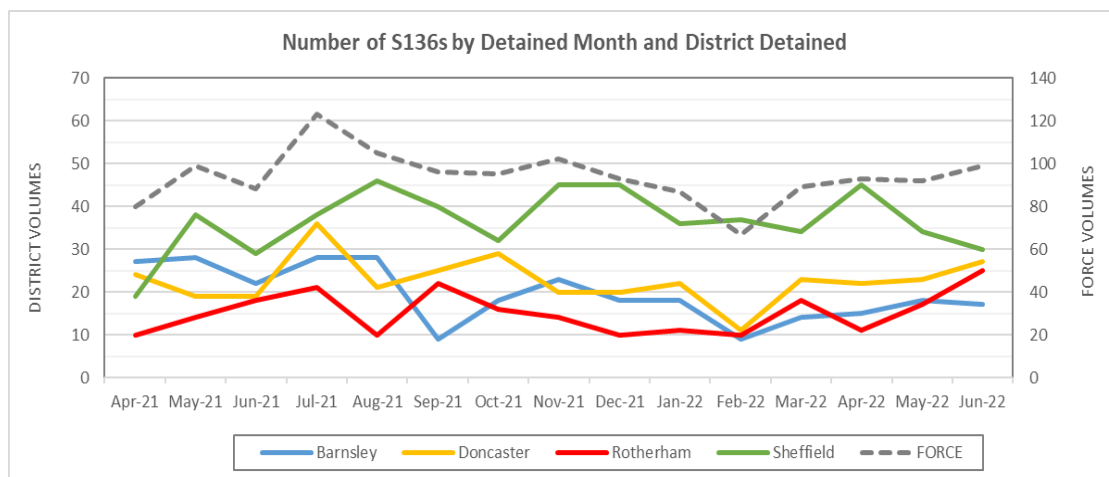
3.8.4 The force remains active in encouraging transferees to join SYP. As a district, we encourage officer attachments to departments such as DAT/CID to encourage applications for detective roles. Officers/staff who are commencing a career in CID/PVP/DAT are allocated a mentor and supervisor to support them in their new appointment.

3.8.5 Furthermore, the district has instigated a rotation of trainee investigators to work across all detective roles in the district i.e., CID/PVP/DAT. This will upskill officers and enable them to share their knowledge with colleagues.

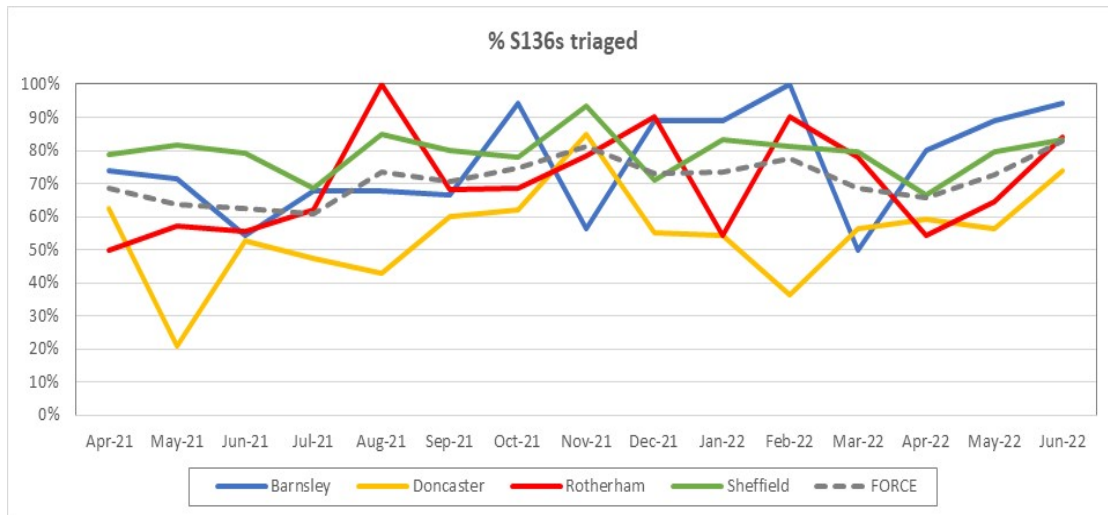
**3.9 Mental Health.**

3.9.1 The demand linked to mental health crisis continues to be a challenge seen throughout SYP.

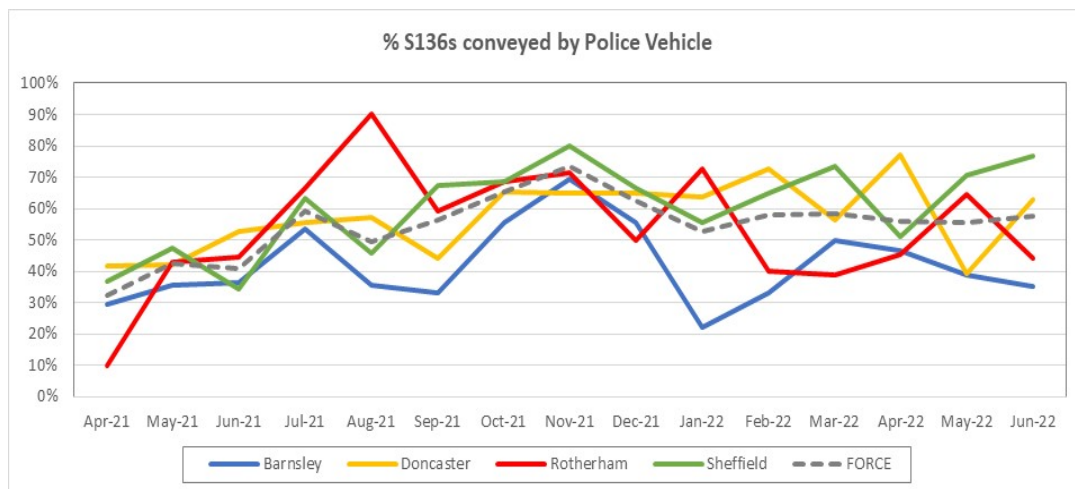
3.9.2 The below chart shows the demands of detention under Section 136, this shows an increase on the last quarter. The rise over the last quarter has been significant in Rotherham, with our highest number of s.136 detentions for more than 12 months occurring in Jun 2022. This has coincided with an increase in our use of the s.136 triage process. The detention of individuals through s.136 helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of people in times of crisis and we work closely with our partners through our SNS to make sure they are given the care and support they need.



3.9.3 The mental health triage process has shown an increase in use throughout the last quarter within Rotherham, and in the last quarter a consistent use showed Rotherham above the force average as shown in the chart below. We continue to promote the use of this service with our officers to ensure a consistent approach to those in crisis.



3.9.4 There is the existing agreement in pace with Yorkshire Ambulance Service in relation to conveyance of those detained under section 136, an ambulance should attend within forty minutes. Early in the quarter the use of police vehicles to convey detainees steadily increased, however over the latter period of the last quarter within Rotherham these levels have reduced back in line with the previous quarter.



What is working well:

3.9.5 The embedded mental health nurse has now been with us for approximately three years. This consistent resource has allowed the SNS to develop several workstreams that aim to protect vulnerable people. One such workstream is the partnership with Shiloh. The mental health nurse works within the Shiloh building one day per week supporting those suffering with homelessness and poor mental health. This project gives service users direct access to mental health services and the much-needed help to overcome deteriorating mental health

What are we concerned about:

3.9.6 As always with the added financial pressures on all services we need to ensure that we are able to deliver our promises to people who feel that they are consistently let down by services through withdrawal of funding streams. This is a particular concern around Mental Health and the increase of those at crisis point.

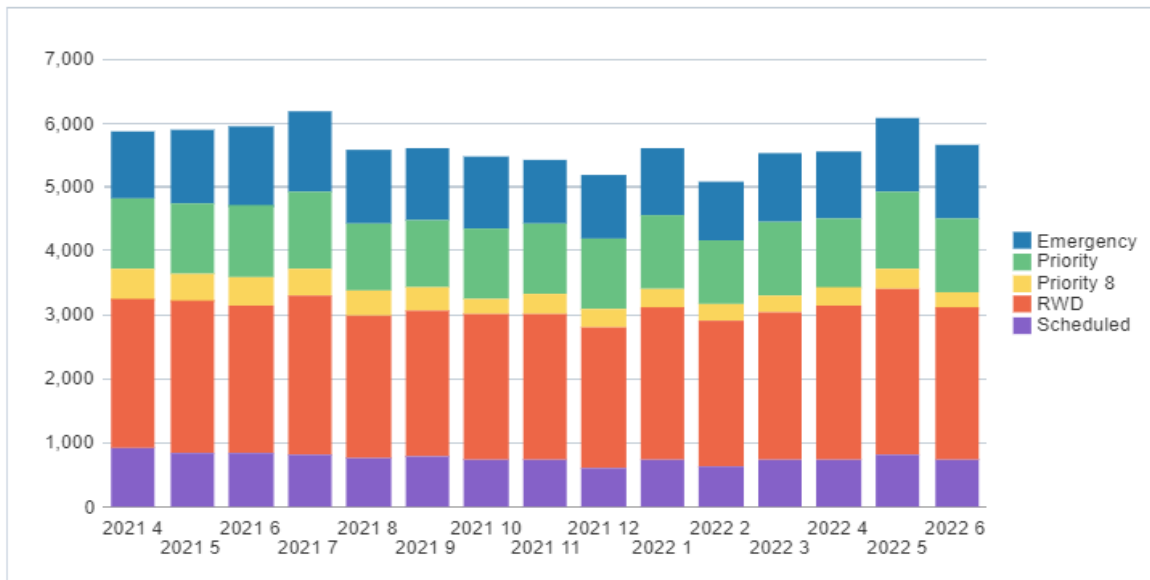
What are we doing about it:

3.9.7 We continue conversations with our partners to ensure that we are identifying options to develop the services that the SNS can offer to those vulnerable members of our community who live with poor mental health. The benefits of the service are reported to the SRP via the Vulnerability Dashboard to ensure they are sighted on the benefits.

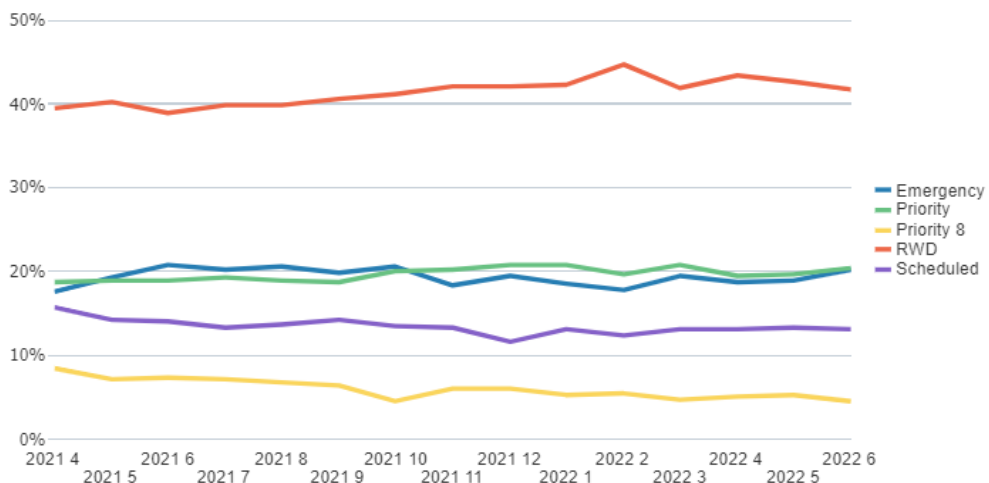
## 4. TACKLING CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

### 4.1 Overall Demand

4.1.1 Rotherham has seen the number of overall calls from the public largely remain the same with a spike in May 2022 for the period April to June 2022. With those, calls being emergency and priority response appear to have slightly increased along with a slight reduction in Priority 8 calls. In May 2022 over 6,000 calls for service were received, a demand which hasn't been seen since July 2021. These increases have been countered by a continued slight reduction in Priority 8 response calls from last quarter. The below graph demonstrates the overall call demand and assigned grading.



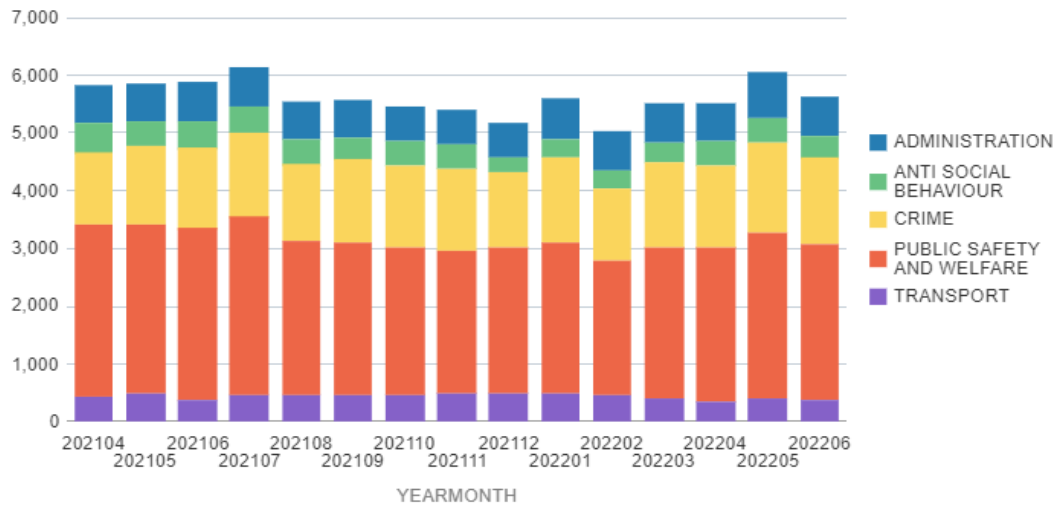
4.1.2 The percentage of emergency and priority calls have increased slightly over the last quarter and together account for 40% of calls to the public. These graded calls include crimes and public welfare and safety that take longer for officers to deal with. The graph below demonstrates the % of calls per call grading.



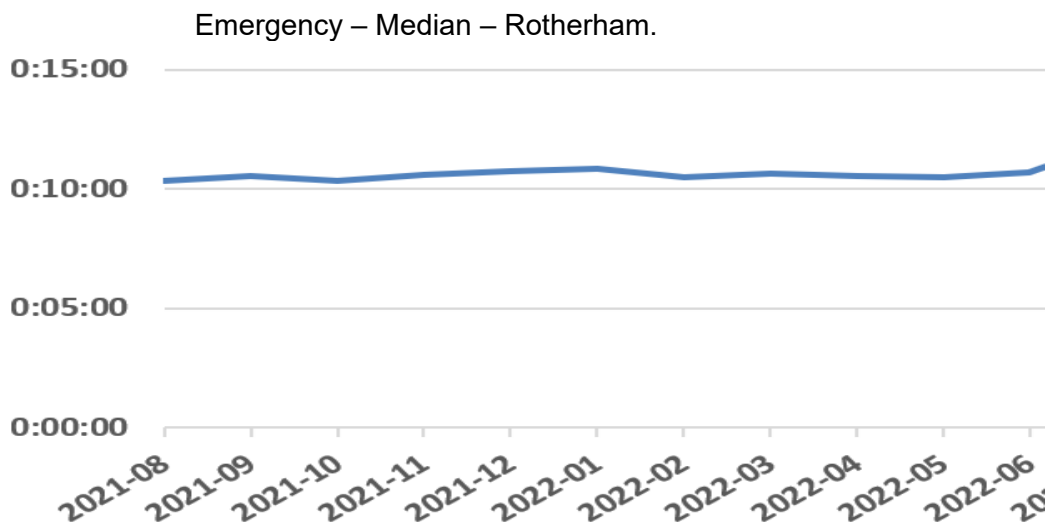
4.1.3 Overall incident demand has seen a slight increase since last quarter but appears to be slightly less than the same period last year and could demonstrate seasonal trends. There continues to be a slight shift in the type of incidents reported; with 'public safety and welfare' remaining relatively stable since August 2021, and an increase in 'Anti-Social Behaviour' and 'crime' related incidents since last quarter. Although relatively stable there was a peak in May 2022 which was largely driven by an increase in 'public safety and welfare' and 'administrative' calls, while 'crime' and 'ASB' remained relatively static.



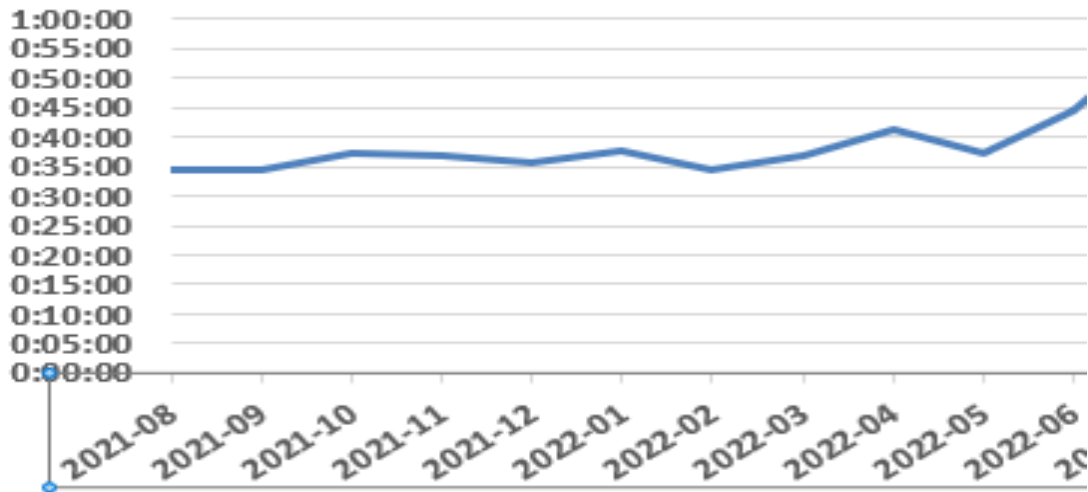
4.1.4 The below graph shows a gradual decrease throughout 2021/2022 of 'public safety and welfare' incidents, which now appears to have stabilised. These types of calls still account for approximately 50% of our incident demand.



4.1.5 The charts below show Rotherham’s median response times for emergency and priority graded incidents. Our emergency calls have remained largely stable throughout the last 12 months, and we continue to attend within the 15-minute timeframe. Response times for priority incidents have seen an increase since the last quarter but still within the 60-minute timeframe. This has been driven by a spike in April and June 2022 along with the increase in vacancies across the Rotherham District and force. Timely attendance to calls for service remains something we will monitor through our daily management structure and meetings with our response inspectors.



Priority - Median– Rotherham.



4.1.6 Timely and effective response to incidents continues to be the focus in Rotherham. This allows us to maintain trust and confidence with our communities, identify those callers with vulnerabilities and apprehend offenders quickly whilst ensuring best evidence is captured. This remains the most efficient way of using our resources and delivering good victim care.

What is working well:

4.1.7 Rotherham continues to operate as one team across the district to deliver the best possible service to all of Rotherham’s communities. Our focus to deliver for our communities ensures that we send the right resource first time to incidents and work efficiently with the resources we have available. Our Triage Sergeant works closely with our force control room to identify vulnerability and risk while ensuring the right resource is allocated in a timely manner.

4.1.8 Our daily management structures continue to ensure focus is given to the District from the Command Team. Identified risk continues to be appropriately managed within the district, delegating responsibilities accordingly. Welfare concerns can be raised, and specific tasks are recorded and actioned from these meetings ensuring updates are followed up.

What we are looking to address:

4.1.9 Whilst our incident demand has slightly increased it remains overall similar to last quarter. There continues to be a higher number of crimes being reported than this time last year and these incidents often take longer to deal with. It remains a focus for our officers to deliver an excellent victim led service, understand the importance of obtaining best evidence first time and safeguarding victims, focusing on deliver a quality service each time.

What we are doing about it:

4.1.10 We continue to support our staff by organising training and guidance with locally delivered up-skilling sessions utilising subject matter experts. These cut across all staff from students to our supervisors at Sergeant and Inspector level. These continue to include development days, bite-size inputs during briefing, sharing of good practice and useful ‘how to’ guides. This aims to increase the early evidential capture at incidents along with the quality of service we deliver on initial attendance by changing the narrative with our teams from focusing on dealing promptly towards delivering a timely but quality response.

4.1.11 We are increasing our Evidential Review Officer numbers to support the knowledge and development of our staff across the front line, while supporting the drive to improve investigative quality and increase positive action taken against offenders.

4.1.12 We continue to see the benefits of students undertaking the PEQF process while they continue their journey on the programme and spend more time on District. This sees benefits across a number of portfolios as the students continue their learning and development through rotations across a number of departments. The rotations continue to develop our

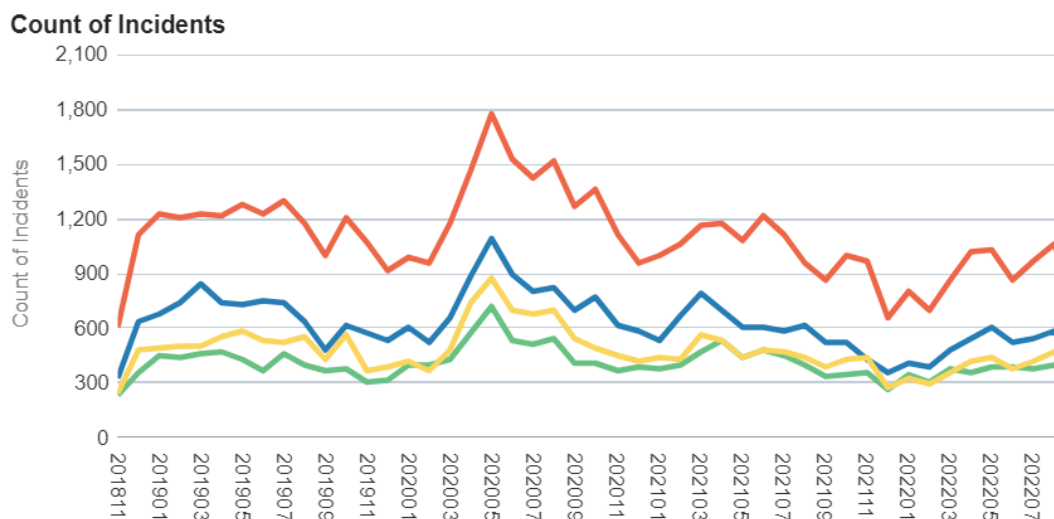
students and support them through the PEQF process, but also embeds our drive to deliver a quality service to our communities. In addition, the force uplift programme will start to see our students finishing their PEQF and remain on district from the third quarter onwards which will support our timely response to calls for service.

## 5. TACKLING LOCAL ISSUES

### 5.1 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Overview

5.1.1 Rotherham continues to see a sustained decrease in ASB levels in quarter one from previous levels.

5.1.2 These reductions show a decrease lower than elsewhere in the force, with a slight increase towards the summer in line with the force trend. As shown on the chart below:



(Rotherham in yellow)

5.1.3 The ASB call back scheme continues to be part of daily business for the local neighbourhood teams with:

- 672 call backs completed in quarter one
- 111 referrals made to internal or external partner agencies in quarter one as a result

5.1.4 Rotherham district has three geographically based Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs), which are co-located with partner agencies. Central NPT are based at Riverside House, North NPT at Rawmarsh and South NPT at Maltby. Each of these teams currently have Problem Solving plans that look at different issues within a range of areas within their geographical location:

#### Central - Town Centre

5.1.5 There is now a new multi-agency problem solving plan for the town centre- focussing on begging and associated issues. These plans include a new weekly walkaround as a partnership and a bespoke meeting directly afterwards to explore tasking across the portfolios.

5.1.6 Further engagement opportunities have also been explored with the launch of a new Business watch meeting to further build links with our business communities. This directly feeds into the planned activity. This will support the launch of our Shop Watch and hopefully serve to encourage more local businesses to sign up to this scheme which assists in information being shared between the community themselves.

- 5.1.7 An operation looking at Cannabis Grown through unexplained power-cuts has now evolved to daily business with the activity now being managed by the geographical teams in conjunction with partner agencies. There still remains a sustained reduction in violence related offences and linked ASB and there have been no further power cuts within the area.
- 5.1.8 The benefits of the Operation are now being replicated across other areas of business, including the multi-agency response to issues in Maltby and Dinnington, and has also led to joint training across the partnership agencies.
- 5.1.9 There is a planned further crime stoppers revisit that may lead to further intelligence being fed into the partnership and steer further activity within this area.
- 5.1.10 Colleagues within the investigation functions continue to pursue the problematic landlords and explore links to other crime groups.
- 5.1.11 To date there have been 122 warrants executed resulting in over 20k cannabis plants being recovered worth over £20.5 million. This has also led to 50 arrests and 120 prohibition notices served by partners under the housing act.

What is working well:

- 5.1.12 The partnership response developed for the operation was so successful the lessons have been taken to support and pay dividends within other areas of the partnership and led to a more joined up approach to problem solving. The operation was successful in winning a Tilley award for problem solving at the national awards. This is a great achievement for the work that the team has completed on this, with their presentation drawing numerous requests from other Forces to help replicate this work in their Forces.

What are we concerned about:

- 5.1.13 The current staffing issues across the neighbourhood portfolio continues to be a concern. This links to the concerns raised around the throughput of new student officers with all pillars of policing sharing the current vacancies.

What are we doing about it:

- 5.1.14 We continue to review staffing across the District on a regular basis and try to ensure vacancies are distributed evenly and in line with risk. The neighbourhood teams continue to be protected to allow them dedicated time to work on the issues highlighted, and a further recruitment campaign will be launched later in the year.

#### North – Swinton

- 5.1.15 Quarter one saw significant issues in Swinton in relation to ASB and Damage. As a result a dedicated problem-solving plan was launched in conjunction with partners.
- 5.1.16 The activity to look at these issues included increased patrols both in plain clothes and uniform, and DOCO (Design out Crime Officer) assessments to look at possible crime prevention measures that could be put in place.
- 5.1.17 School talks were completed including crime and consequence and work with the local educational pupil referral unit.
- 5.1.18 Improved CCTV was installed in the area to assist with prevention and detection. Identified offenders now engaged with YOT, and further civil injunction warning letters jointly served with partners
- 5.1.19 This has now led to a significant reduction in demand reported towards the end of Q1.

#### Cortonwood

- 5.1.20 Q1 saw an increase in youth related ASB within the Cortonwood area linked to youths attending at retail premises and engaging in ASB towards staff and customers.
- 5.1.21 A new problem-solving plan was developed which has led to sustained activity including embedding Shop Watch radio link in conjunction with partnership colleagues. Several youths already identified as involved in the incidents with formal, proportionate action ongoing to deal with these individuals. This includes two offenders now with CPS for disposal decision and two going through the YOT process. Further work ongoing with partners in relation to potential tenancy breaches.

What is working well:

- 5.1.22 The use of joint powers to combat an issue has been successful. This offers multiple options and tools to target the problem and seek intervention or enforcement whilst also offering appropriate support.

What are we concerned about:

- 5.1.23 Upcoming staffing challenges due to some neighbourhood staff moving to new roles and linked to the previously mentioned 12.2% Rotherham vacancy factor.

What are we doing about it:

- 5.1.24 Further recruitment for the neighbourhood function planned for later in the year which will feed into the wider workforce planning to ensure the impact of the new officers in Rotherham over the latter part of 2022 and early 2023 will support all areas of policing within Rotherham. We continue to support and protect Neighbourhood Policing teams where possible to ensure they are able to focus on engagement, early intervention and problem solving work within our communities.

#### South - Maltby

- 5.1.25 Work continued in Maltby under a partnership response to ASB and SAC within the locality. Recent activity includes a review of the lighting and CCTV in coronation park, and an operation keep safe that allowed engagement with 60 youths within the area.
- 5.1.26 Joint operation with proactive colleagues allowed for numerous stop and searches to be conducted where the powers allowed, and for attrition visits to be completed on nominals of note within the area.
- 5.1.27 Patrol plans have been completed and also completed by our operational support colleagues to ensure the best coverage
- 5.1.28 Youth provisions have been expanded including Early Help and JADE.

#### Dinnington

- 5.1.29 Work has also continued in Dinnington with problem solving activity being conducted against the existing Problem Orientated plan (POP) for this area.
- 5.1.30 Seven warrants have been executed under the misuse of drugs act, with two males being detained and convicted and three others awaiting results.
- 5.1.31 Activity has also continued against ASB with 11 ABC1s being served, and 1 ASB. The team have also recovered four vehicles under policing powers.
- 5.1.32 15 reassurance visits have been conducted by the NPT officers, with 15 further visits by the DOCO. One police alarm has been installed in a business premise within the locality due to being a repeat victim and one SAC nominal has been arrested for commercial burglary within the area

5.1.33 Increased youth provisions arranged for the area including JADE youth club, and boxing sessions.

What is working well:

5.1.34 The partnership response to the issues in the area ensuring that all agencies have an investment in the issue. This response has resulted in significant reductions of ASB reported in Q2 with Dinnington seeing the largest reduction of all areas within Rotherham. Clearly work needs to continue to tackle ongoing concerns and consolidate the achievements to date.

What are we concerned about:

5.1.35 Ensuring that the work that is being completed is being fed back into the communities to support awareness and trust and confidence.

What are we doing about it:

5.1.36 Review of engagement sites and drop ins, better use of posts on social media via our corporate communication team.

## **6. OPERATION DUXFORD**

6.1.1 Operation Duxford occurred on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022. A day when force and district resources join together with our local partners to tackle crime and ASB at all levels. Op Duxford is a quarterly event, which gives the district time to plan and prioritise our actions to address our communities' concerns. It gives districts the ability to utilise additional force resources from specialist departments, resources from remaining three districts across South Yorkshire, along with partner agencies including RMBC. On this occasion, Rotherham focussed these resources across a variety of activities around engagement, prevention, proactivity and enforcement. The operation targeted organised crime, drug cultivation, the arrest of outstanding suspects (domestic abuse, serious acquisitive crime), engagement events for Hate crime, school presentations, pop up police stations and crime awareness stalls, along with speed watch and hot spot patrols. The activity was managed and coordinated by Chief Inspector Gilmour and Insp Bradey.

6.1.2 Trading Standards, Rotherham Council and Environment Agency supported our operation by targeting fly tipping, conducting test purchases for knives and vapes, along with VOSA supporting static stop sites.

6.1.3 The Roads Policing Group (RPG), and Off-Road Motorcycles were deployed across Rotherham, focussing on offences relating to speeding, motoring offences and illegal use of off-road motorcycles.

6.1.4 Engagement stalls and pop-up police stations were located within areas of key footfall across the district, along with specific engagement with our local Taxi drivers. These gave our staff the opportunity to engage with our community, give out crime prevention advice, discuss priorities and distribute alarms and other crime prevention items

6.1.5 Operation Duxford was a success, and we are proud of the day's activities and results These include:

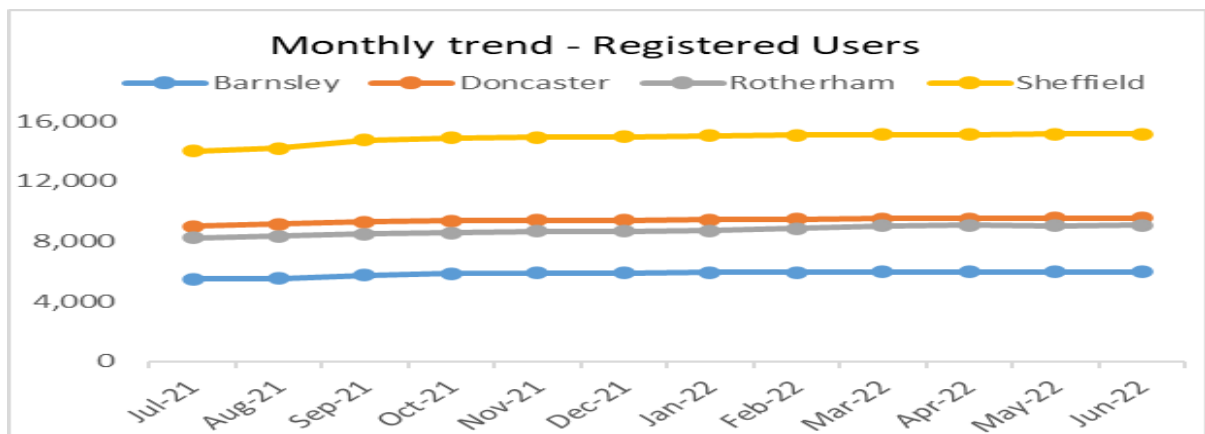
- 17 arrests for a range of offences including drugs, traffic, violence and weapon offences.
- 5 drugs warrants executed.
- 340 cannabis plants, a large quantity of bagged cannabis and a quantity of Class A drugs recovered.
- 2 firearms and a number of further weapons seized.
- Two suspected stolen vehicles seized, along with 9 more for motoring offences.
- Nearly £5,000 cash seized.

- More than 150 members of the public engaged with across the day
- Over £10,000 worth of illegal Vapes seized.
- High visibility patrols and leaflet drops across the district.
- Mounted and off-road bike patrols in hot spot areas.



## 7. ENGAGEMENT

7.1.1 Rotherham continues to explore the best methods of engaging with our communities, and with face-to-face meetings now being possible again this option is further exploited and developed. SYP Alerts continues to be utilised to pass out vital messages from our teams, as do other mainstream social media platforms including Facebook and Twitter. The monthly trend for registered users remains relatively level. There is work on-going at a Force level to increase the ease with which the public can sign up for SYP Alerts.



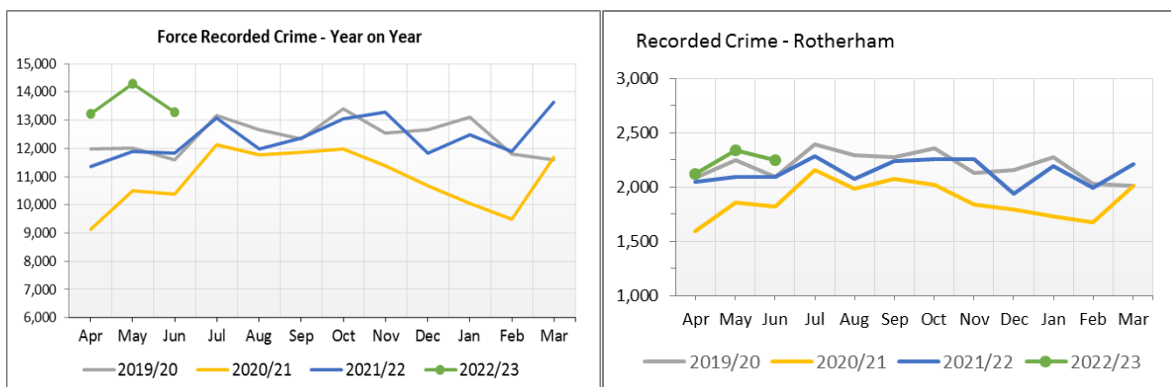
- 7.1.2 Work has continued to build up links with our business communities throughout the borough with weekly partnership ‘Walkarounds’ in the town centre, a new business watch meeting in the town and the rollout of ‘Shop Watch’ radios at Cortonwood
- 7.1.3 Further drop ins have been launched across all areas of the borough and links strengthen with community groups such as ‘Knit and natter’ and coffee mornings. These different forums and methods of engaging with our community are key in ensuring we maximise our interactions with as many people as possible.
- 7.1.4 Rotherham has seen a slight increase in confidence for the YVC survey- which now brings us more in line with the force trend. As shown on the charts below 32% of respondents felt the police do a good or excellent job and increase of 1% from the previous twelve months.



- 7.1.5 There is further work to be done for us to bring back our engagement to those of pre COVID, and as staffing across the teams improves this will give more options to engage with our communities.

## 8. CRIME

### 8.1 All Crime



- 8.1.1 When considering all recorded crime, we can see correlation between Rotherham and the Force trend, with an increase of record crime in Q1 22/23 to Q4 21/22, with May 22 seeing the highest volume. Rotherham did not see a substantial increase on the same period in the previous three years. The most recent data shows that Rotherham is in the lower levels of the ‘All Crime’ rate for Community Safety Partnership peers, which is a real positive.
- 8.1.2 Rotherham observed an increase in all crime recorded in Q1 2022/23 to Q1 2022/21, an increase of 8% (475 offences). Q1 22/23 saw a 5% increase in recorded crime compared to Q4 21/22, an increase of 307 offences– although both are lower than the rest of the force
- 8.1.3 Residential burglary reduced significantly in Q1 following the increase over the previous two quarters, Rotherham’s burglary rate remains a long way below the rest of force average. The largest volume change between Q4 and Q1 was in Public Fear, Alarm or Distress, with 134



more crimes recorded this quarter, the low volume of Theft from Person had the largest proportional increase. Rape offences recorded were notably lower than the previous four periods, conversely Other Sexual and Other Theft increased to a higher level than previous quarters

- 8.1.4 A comprehensive performance framework across the force/district allows the early identification of patterns/trends/increases etc.. This structure includes Force Tactical Tasking and Coordination Group (TTCG), District TTCG and the District biweekly Neighbourhood Crime (NHC) Governance Meeting. We have introduced Team Accountability Meetings (TAMs) across the District which ensures all supervisors have an understanding of trends and priorities within their portfolios and are held jointly to account against a defined performance framework which focusses on quality outcomes for victims and communities.
- 8.1.5 Neighbourhood Crime is one of the new national policing performance measures and is defined by the Home Office as: Residential Burglary, Personal Robbery, all Vehicle crime and Theft from Person.
- 8.1.6 Rotherham have invested in the neighbourhood crime team as we know the impact that these offences have on our communities. This sees a refocus of the crime type with dedicated supervisors and officers. The NHC team has seen an amalgamation of Detectives, Police Constables and Investigation Officers to form a team which has a proactive and reactive element. We have, over the last couple of weeks (Q2), uplifted the staffing within this team to ensure we are maximising opportunities to manage our prolific offenders.
- 8.1.7 Force-wide, Q1 22/23 saw a similar level of neighbourhood crime to Q4 21/22 (-88 crimes, -1%), this is, however, a 42% increase on Q1 21/22 (+121). Rotherham saw a reduction of 167 offences (17%) from Q4, and the crime rate remains well below the force average, although the volume was still 24% above Q1 21/22 (+153).
- 8.1.8 Residential burglary notably reduced in Q1 from the peak in Q4, whilst theft from vehicle was lower than in the previous four quarters. Theft of vehicle has been higher over the last two quarters, albeit not seeing the increases found elsewhere.
- 8.1.9 Joint work between the NHC team and local Neighbourhood policing teams saw bespoke problem orientated policing (POP) plans in place in wards such as Boston Castle and Wales. This involved targeted patrols, and crime prevention. These are currently being reviewed and developed to maximise the input of partners within them.
- 8.1.10 There is also an ongoing review of forensic packages linked to NHC offences, these packages have evidence of potential suspects for previously recorded crimes, and are being revisited, to maximise opportunities for arrest. Identified crimes will be reopened and allocated to the Rotherham NHC team for further investigation.
- 8.1.11 This ongoing approach intends to:-
- Improve timeliness of response and standards of investigation
  - Improve opportunities for proactive policing targeting prolific offenders, outstanding NHC suspect, and hot spot areas that map against crime data
  - Increase the ability to respond quickly to live incidents and identified crime series of this nature to capture evidence in a timely fashion
  - Improve outcomes
  - Enhance the quality of service provided to the public
- 8.1.12 The Detective Inspector of the NHC unit chairs the Bi-Weekly SAC Governance Meeting (referenced earlier in the report). The meeting is an internal partnership between IOM, Intelligence and NPT around SAC. This forum enables the tasking of proactive enquiries to target SAC nominals and hot spot areas. These meetings provide the foundation for

Rotherham district to provide a holistic approach to tackling neighbourhood crime and provides an environment where resources can respond quickly to emerging threats and themes.

- 8.1.13 To ensure all investigations are to the very best standard, a number of initiatives have been put in place across the organisation with the aim of driving improvements in quality and timeliness.
- 8.1.14 Quality Assurance Thematic Testing 'QATT' is a force crime review framework designed to make comparisons to identify both areas of good practice and areas of common weakness. There are 4 Pillars of QATT:
- Victim Focus
  - Suspect Management
  - Quality of Investigations
  - Supervisor Reviews
- 8.1.15 Each area is assessed against a specific question set and given a qualitative score, reviews are completed by Detective Inspectors (DIs) and Detective Chief Inspectors (DCI's). Data is then produced each month giving detailed feedback on specific teams and individual officers. This is underpinned through discussion in our monthly Team Accountability Meetings around any particular trends, issues, or areas of good practice that are highlighted.
- 8.1.16 This process provides an evidential base to identify specific areas for improvement as well as good working practices within the district and across the force and is designed to focus on improvement of quality.
- 8.1.17 The QATT process has been embedded in all crimes linked to Protecting Vulnerable People for several months. Rotherham district are showing positive results in all four pillars of the QATT with good practice and learning being shared amongst other departments. Rotherham district are leading in a pilot to role this process to other PIP level 2 and PIP level 1 investigations which went live in October 2022 (Q2).

### Crime Key Points

What is working well:

- 8.1.18 Rotherham's overall crime rate for Q1 is below the overall force rate, with no crime types significantly above the force average. The district also remains in the lower boundaries of its Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Peers.
- 8.1.19 Ongoing partnership work with RMBC, NHC teams and NPT's working together, to generate intelligence is generating reactive/proactive patrols, ensuring early identification/arrest of suspects for many offences including NHC.

What are we concerned about:

- 8.1.20 As crime increases, the ability to respond effectively to Neighbourhood Crime, at a time when the force/district is not at optimum.

What are we doing about it:

- 8.1.21 Reinvigoration of the NHC team with support from the district tasking team and local neighbourhood teams will ensure the teams have the resources to work with communities to respond to offences and conduct effective problem solving.

### Organised Crime

- 8.1.22 There are currently seventeen organised crime groups (OCG's) mapped across Rotherham District, predominantly linked to drugs supply/distribution, with several who are firearms enabled i.e., intelligence suggests the group could have access to viable firearms.
- 8.1.23 Organised Crime Groups (OCG's) are individuals who work together as an identifiable group of people to further their criminal activities. Within Rotherham, we seek to identify those involved in organised crime, map them as OCG's and then work within a multi-agency partnership to disrupt their activity and safeguard those at risk from such groups using a wide variety of powers and legislation. By using a multi-agency approach to tackling OCGs, we recognise that the problem is not just the responsibility of the police, but a wide range of both statutory and non- statutory partners, ranging from Community Safety, Social Care, right through to charities involved in diversionary activity. While the Rotherham Fortify Team coordinate much of activity against OCG's, neighbourhood teams are linked into this work and drive much of the local low-level disruption.
- 8.1.24 In Q1 Rotherham has recorded twenty-once focussed disruptions.
- 8.1.25 One of the seventeen OCG's was sentenced to 9 years imprisonment for an offence of Death by Driving Offence. This substantial sentence has removed the nominal from the OCG and his ability to commit further SOC in relation to theft of Landrovers.
- 8.1.26 One of the seventeen OCGs were sentenced to Prison totalling over 9 years for their part in a conspiracy to produce Cannabis when the OCG were highly Active. The principle and main members of the OCG have all be given prison sentenced, with some lower members receiving suspended or community orders in addition to the 9 years. This has dismantled the OCG.
- 8.1.27 One of the seventeen OCG's principal member has been imprisoned to 9 years for drug related offences.
- 8.1.28 Within the Rotherham Fortify Team, an OCG Coordinator is fully embedded. A key focus for this role is to strengthen relationships with partner agencies, improve information sharing and increase opportunities for disruption activity.

## **9. TREATING PEOPLE FAIRLY**

### Responding to calls for service

- 9.1.1 Rotherham ensures officers and staff respond quickly and safely to calls for service from residents. People call the police in times of crisis and a timely response ensures our officers/staff safeguard victim, commence early evidence gathering and ensure timely arrests where appropriate. The introduction of our Triage Sergeant who works closely with our control room supports the effective and efficient use of resources.
- 9.1.2 As previously stated, over the last twelve months, Rotherham has maintained around 80 per cent attendance within fifteen minutes of call being received for an emergency call for service, and over 70% attendance within one hour for priority incidents over the last 12 months, with June 2022 seeing a dip below 70% for the first time. This is at a time where we have seen an increase in demand along with some resourcing challenges that has contributed to this dip below 70% attendance. This also comes at a time where we are subtly changing the focus away from target times towards delivering a quality response and a quality investigation.

What is working well:

- 9.1.3 The overall satisfaction for victims of crime in Rotherham for Jan 2022 to June 2022 is 71% which is in line with Force levels.
- 9.1.4 Inspectors undertake reviews and qualitative assessment of investigations in order to understand what elements of our victim care/investigations we deliver well, what we could improve on and develop a plan to address these areas. This adoption of a qualitative

performance framework supports the ongoing work to re-focus our officers and staff towards delivering a quality response to our victims, assessing positive outcomes, not just positive outputs. The information is then used and fed back to officers/staff and the survey team which informs the Force Complete Victim care Strategic Meetings for discussion in order to improve local/force wide delivery of victim care.

What we are concerned about:

- 9.1.5 As a district and a force, we have identified areas for improvement within our overall satisfaction levels. While we have 87% initial contact and 89% treatment satisfaction levels since April 2021. Our victim contacts and action taken rates are areas that have affected our overall satisfaction level to 74%. Improving the quality of our victim contact, the quality of our initial evidence gathering and quality of investigation these will improve both the areas we have identified.

What are we doing about it:

- 9.1.6 Victim Satisfaction, remains a priority for the District, and so key messages around quality of victim contact, quality and standards of investigations are delivered through daily management meetings, team briefings, Team Accountability Meetings along business and supervisor away days. We are delivering training packages/inputs to our staff through a number of channels and also increasing the number of our evidential review officers. To support our drive to improve the quality of service we have a framework in place through QATT, a process that reviews the quality of the investigations with the emphasis key areas that include victim contact, and investigation quality. Embedding these areas will enable the district to see improved satisfaction levels for the areas identified.

#### Hate Crime

- 9.1.7 Rotherham has observed a steady increase in reports of hate incidents/crime and while some of this will be as a result of improved crime recording practices the district also believes communities are more confident in coming forward in the knowledge their report will be taken seriously. Our Hate Crime co-ordinator (HCC) continues his work within our communities, schools, and local third sector organisations such as Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance (REMA), and our Transgender community to ensure lines of communication with our minority groups continue to grow and have confidence in the police. Rotherham currently average 70 reports of hate incidents/crime per month, which also aligns with a steady increase force wide.
- 9.1.8 The HCC continues work with the local authority and local education establishments to deliver both hate crime assemblies and 'one to one' sessions with the younger members of our communities, and people who have been identified by their schools as having concerning behaviour. The behaviour continues to be primarily revolved around the use of Racist and Homophobic language. We continue our working relations with Remedy to deliver Hate crime awareness training to those young people who have engaged in such behaviour. Remedy remain commissioned by the Local Authority to deliver Hate Crime awareness training to both adults and children with the Rotherham District.
- 9.1.9 The HCC continues to link in with the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner and the Force Engagement Team to promote engagement opportunities with some of our harder to reach communities such as recently attending a Transgender clinic. He continues to work alongside colleagues from our Neighbourhood teams as well as the Local Authority Hate Crime officer. The team utilise 'pop up' stalls that are positioned within high footfall locations such as the Rotherham Show held at Clifton Park, Rotherham District General Hospital within the entrance area. Utilising 'pop up' style stalls make the police more accessible and improves engagement with members of our community. It allows us to promote Hate Crime awareness, improve reporting of incidents/crimes alongside recruitment opportunities within SYP. Staff continue to attend local events to continue our engagement.

- 9.1.10 The Safer Neighbourhood Service (SNS) has now embedded the new Hate Crime Triage process that ensures all Hate crime investigations are submitted to SNS prior to the investigation being filed. This continues to ensure we deliver a quality investigation by review process, giving guidance to the investigating officer and ensure evidence capture is completed. The final stage continues to ensure the best outcome has been achieved for the victim. The aim remains to provide a consistent approach to all Hate crime investigations thus providing the best possible service for the victims of such crimes.
- 9.1.11 Victim satisfaction levels for hate crime January 2022 to June 2022 was 74%, compared to a force average of 71%. Action taken rates has seen a significant increase against the comparable Quarter 1 in 2021 of 13.1%, as we currently stand at 18.1% for Quarter 1 in 2022. Again, this is above the force average of 12.5%. The district understands there is continued work to be done to improve these outcomes for victims of hate crime and with the implementation of the evidential review officer, training and uplift programme we aim to see a further improvement in this area.



## 10. RESOURCES

- 10.1.1 Rotherham currently has an overall vacancy rate of 12.2%; this has increased from 11.2% since the last report. This vacancy rate was expected and currently sits around 12% on response, 9% within our neighbourhood teams and 14% within our detective teams. Whilst these vacancies have increased slightly, we are now in the position where our new student officers on the PEQF program will start to spend more time at Rotherham.
- 10.1.2 Our first 10 students arrived permanently on District on 24<sup>th</sup> October with a further 6 arriving permanently in early 2023. As well as these officers there are additional students on the 3-year programme that will spending longer periods of time at Rotherham which will have a positive impact on our capacity. This includes 8 in November and a further 10 in early 2023.
- 10.1.3 The District continues to benefit from these student officers, who are dynamic, intelligent, positive, and thoughtful. The standard is high, and these officers will be the future of South Yorkshire Police. We have ensured we give them time to build on their experiences as a police officer, and ensure the appropriate support is in place to develop their skills.
- 10.1.4 We are also pleased to report that DCI Aneela Khalil-Khan has been successful in her bid for the Fullbright Stephen Lawrence Award. This substantial grant worth \$20,000 enables the successful applicant to conduct research and exchange best practice with colleagues in the US on how to improve community engagement with regards to race, policing and criminal justice. This is an outstanding achievement for Aneela and an exciting opportunity for Rotherham and South Yorkshire Police to lead on improving engagement with our diverse communities.

What is working well:

- 10.1.5 The Command Team have a good understanding of our resource availability as well as our peak demand times which enables us to appropriately plan and ensure sufficient resource is

available to meet the public. The PEQF process is providing us with knowledgeable and informed students who will be the future of policing in South Yorkshire.

What are we concerned about:

- 10.1.6 Our vacancy rate has increased, and this is of course a concern. This has the potential to affect the service we deliver to the public but also the welfare of our remaining staff as we ask them to pick up additional work for those that are missing.

What are we doing about it:

- 10.1.7 We understand where our points of peak demand are, and are working within Force Operations to address these pinch points. We have utilised shift extensions and overtime in order to address some of the staffing challenges over the summer period.
- 10.1.8 We are aware of busy periods for policing such as Halloween, Bonfire Night and the World Cup and have specific plans in place to ensure we can effectively respond to and manage the increased demands.

<b>List of background documents</b>		
Report Author:	Name:	Chief Superintendent Laura Kosciwicz

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**DATE: 7 NOVEMBER 2022**

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PRIORITIES**

### **THEME: PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE (PVP)**

## **REPORT OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

### **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) around progress against the Protecting Vulnerable People priority of the Police and Crime Plan Safer Streets More Police 2022-2025, to support the PCC's overarching aim of South Yorkshire being a safe place in which to live, learn, work and travel.

### **2 RECOMMENDATION(S) AND / OR DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

- 2.1 The force recommends that the PCC considers and discusses the contents of this report and considers whether further assurance is required in relation to the progress made to meet the police and crime plan priority.

### **3 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY ASSESSMENT**

- 3.1 This report will present a brief summary of some of the work undertaken in Protecting Vulnerable People, in delivering the Police and Crime Plan during the current period. This report will provide evidence of approach and delivery within a number of PVP areas:
- PVP Review progress
  - Violence Against Women and Girls and Domestic Abuse
  - Stalking and Harassment
  - Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
  - Management of Sex Offenders
  - Vulnerability

#### **Background**

- 3.2 In 2019, HMICFRS rated the force as 'good' at protecting vulnerable people (PVP) and working well with partners. It stated that the force has a good understanding of vulnerability and supporting staff in identifying vulnerability, and is good at working with partners to manage and prevent the demand from mental health.
- 3.1 There were also areas identified for improvement, and the force has focussed effort on specific recommendations made in the inspection report:
- Crime Data Accuracy (CDA) and investigation supervision
  - More effective partnership data sharing
  - A need to better recognise less obvious vulnerabilities

- 3.2 The force is currently in the finalisation stages of the current PEEL Assessment inspection process, whereby HMICFRS scrutinise all areas of force delivery and will deliver an up to date judgement of the force's overall performance. The end-to-end process takes approximately 18 months, with results expecting to be published in early 2023.
- 3.3 The force has outlined for HMICFRS in our most recent Force Management Statement the challenges in this area of delivery. Detective vacancies and increasing digital footprint within investigations are both recognised as a concern for the wider policing service provision.
- 3.2 It is acknowledged that the Officer Uplift programme will bring long-term benefits with specialist resources allocated to the PVP areas of work, but this will take time to deliver. Demands for PVP services are high, and in some areas, increases are anticipated. Supporting the effective use of existing resources and ensuring the force works to deliver a whole system approach across the wider partnership in the protection of vulnerable people is a focus for the force in 2022/23.

#### **PVP Review progress**

- 3.3 The internal review of the force's PVP function continues; the demand analysis for crime allocation is now complete and the Business Case for the first phase of the review is being finalised for consideration through the Strategic and Tactical Change Boards in the coming months.
- 3.4 Key work streams of focus within the business case are around the structures and establishment of the PVP teams, alongside an allocation policy providing clarity of the investigative demands remit in each area.
- 3.5 The proposals are significant and complex in their interdependencies. Workforce Planning colleagues are working with the project team to assess the potential timescales for the implementation of the various proposals. In doing so prior to the implementation tranche of the project, the team is proactively working to support the continued availability challenges of trained and qualified detectives.
- 3.6 One of the reasons for the PVP review was the wellbeing of staff and officers in dealing with the demands in this area. A bespoke wellbeing plan was put in place to support staff during the initial phase of the review. Whilst long-term structural decisions are yet to be implemented, there is some positive evidence of the investment around the wellbeing provision provided. Working days lost due to psychological disorders within the PVP area have reduced significantly since the work began at the start of 2022.
- 3.7 Phase 2 of the review was previously outlined to focus largely on the Local Referral Units, and the management of violent and sexual offenders. A Terms of Reference for this phase of the project has now been approved.

#### **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), and Domestic Abuse**

- 3.8 As previously updated, on 15 June 2022, the force launched the 'No More' campaign across South Yorkshire to create a rallying cry to people across the county to work as



allies in tackling micro aggressions faced by women on a daily basis. The campaign highlights the issues of sexual harassment, sexism, and misogyny in the night time economy.

- 3.9 Phase 1 of the 'No More' campaign is now almost complete with the welcoming of 'freshers' (first year university students) throughout September and October. Further plans for phase 1 include an amplification of messaging across the night time economy during the World Cup in November and December, and through the Christmas period. This is targeted for the peak period when people will be engaged with the night time economy.
- 3.10 In October 2022, the force lead for Violence Against Women and Girls, Natalie Shaw provided an interview to BBC Look North on No More and ongoing work in the night time economy, in relation to the freshers and the broader student network
- 3.11 The force will be supporting the 16 days of activism to end VAWG, which runs from the 25<sup>th</sup> November to the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Each district will conduct enforcement and engagement activity, which will be supported by Crime Services, Operational Support Services, Community Safety and Corporate Communication departments.
- 3.12 During this time, the force will launch a Safe Spaces survey, which focus on feelings of safety in online, private and public spaces. The survey can be completed by anyone, albeit the focus will be to capture the views of women and girls 16 years and above.
- 3.13 The survey has been produced following consultation with the VAWG Independent Advisory Group (IAG). Similar surveys have been run by the force previously, but have had limited success in capturing the views of black and minoritised communities. With the help of the VAWG IAG and Local Authority partners, the force is hoping to widen the distribution and completion of the survey so it provides a more appropriate representation of South Yorkshire's diverse communities. This information will be used to inform the VAWG safer spaces element of the force action plan.
- 3.14 The 16 days of activism will conclude in a conference for South Yorkshire Police employees, facilitated by the internal Men's Forum and the Women's Network. The conference will explore how the force can work to tackle aspects of VAWG that exist within the workplace.
- 3.15 The force has now agreed funding for Phase 2 of the campaign, which will be launched during the 16 days of activism. This will see the campaign expanded across a broader age range and will include positive male voices in support of the campaign. This helps the campaign move away from any notion that it is setting an adversarial wall between men and women, as this is not the case.
- 3.16 The campaign works to pitch the minority of people who carry out sexualised harassment against the rest of society, calling upon both men and women to be 'upstanders not bystanders', and by providing allyship to those who need it.
- 3.17 Whilst not public facing, there will soon be a further expansion of the campaign internally across the force, with the introduction of two films. The Head of Corporate

Communications, Carrie Goodwin, is utilising this same concept nationally as part of her work in supporting the national Counter Corruption portfolio.

- 3.18 The force's Professional Standards Appropriate Authority and Counter Corruption lead has also provided an input to the force's Internal Ethics Committee where the dilemmas of the use of social media and personal phones were considered. This supports activity taking place in force in response to concerns raised by the Independent Officer for Police Conduct around the national use of instant messaging and social media.
- 3.19 The national lead for VAWG, DCC Maggie Blyth, has been reflecting on the One Year On anniversary of the specific focus on VAWG across the policing service. As in South Yorkshire, there is a picture of mobilisation nationally, which have been based on the joint strategy released by National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) and the College of Policing in December 2021.
- 3.20 Natalie Shaw, along with colleagues within PVP Governance and Professional Standards Department are, at the time of writing, due to attend the One Year On VAWG Conference. The conference will explore what has been achieved in the last 12 months, and will also inform forces as to the next steps for VAWG through years two and three of the National Framework for Delivery
- 3.21 The national team will now work to bring together the findings from the data and information provided by police forces to deliver a baseline understanding from which improvements can be made nationally. This assessment will be published in November, and it is anticipated it will be difficult, but necessary and welcomed reading for police forces.
- 3.22 A publication in October 2022 from national group has brought together the findings from an all forces review of open cases where allegations of police-perpetrated abuse had been made. The following themes of learning were identified:
  - Supporting victims of police-perpetrated VAWG
  - Raising awareness and encouraging reporting
  - Upskilling investigators
  - Avoiding unnecessary delays in cases being criminally investigated
  - Data quality
  - Inviting external scrutiny of case handling
- 3.23 In December 2022, there will be a publication of policing performance against the national VAWG framework. This includes a focus on misconduct and complaints data, and the timeliness of investigations. This level of transparency is a building theme at the national picture and all forces are working to ensure data capture can meet ongoing requirements from force systems.
- 3.24 One such area is in the accessible reporting of Domestic Abuse. Introduced during the pandemic, the online reporting tool for victims of domestic abuse is now available using all the commonly spoken languages in South Yorkshire.
- 3.25 Underreporting of domestic abuse and sexual offences is known to be a challenge for all police forces, and in South Yorkshire, the VAWG Independent Advisory Group is

supporting and encouraging the force in making changes where possible to break down perceived barriers to reporting.

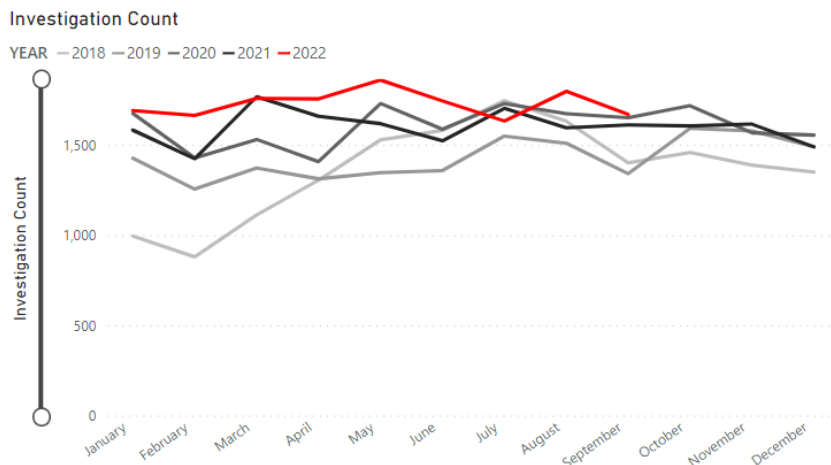
- 3.26 One recent innovation is the change brought about to the Rape and Serious Sexual Offences guide for victims 'What next', which was re-written by survivors of rape who were encouraged to come forward to make the document as inclusive and effective as possible.
- 3.27 Frequent publicity campaigns encourage the reporting of domestic abuse from all communities and Local Authorities commission services that are able to meet the needs of the diverse communities they serve. The force lead for Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage continues to train officers, staff and partner agencies both locally and regionally with the Karma Nirvana training which is now mandatory for PVP staff.
- 3.28 The force's ability to deal with increasing demands from domestic abuse reporting is reviewed regularly at the PVP performance meeting, and within Force Performance Day meetings. Response times and investigative outcomes scrutinised ensure the service to victims starts with a positive response using the most appropriate resources available.
- 3.29 The force continue to record a high resulting level of arrests compared to forces nationally, and our outcomes also compare favourably in comparison with peer forces.
- 3.30 The force is now working to implement an approach piloted in Kent Police, where a victim can choose to speak to an officer over the phone via a video conference. This would only take place where the perpetrator is no longer at the home address, and the victim consents to the call being dealt with via a video conference using the victim's own phone.
- 3.31 The trial in Kent Police has shown positive benefits including increased victim satisfaction rates, and improved outcomes rates for investigations. The victim service benefits from an improved timeliness of officer response to domestic abuse victims, and response officers who would have travelled to attend a victim's address can focus instead on the perpetrator. Kent Police found that this enabled them to deal with domestic abuse calls for service in a more efficient way. The force lead has secured agreement for the force to pilot this approach for two weeks in November 2022.
- 3.32 The force is also preparing for the availability of 'police decision' conditional cautions linked to a short perpetrator programme for Domestic Abuse. At present, there are only nine forces allowed to do this, and the original pilot is expected to be broadened out nationally in April 2023.
- 3.33 A continued area of strength in the force's response to DA is with the use of Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs). On average in 2022, 97 DVPOs are applied for on a monthly basis and 18 breaches of orders are identified.
- 3.34 In September 2022, there were 89 DVPOs applied for of which 77 were approved by a Superintendent and applied for, and 70 Domestic Violence Protection Orders were approved at Court. During the same period, 30 breaches of DVPOs were recorded,

which can result from the monitoring which takes place locally through offender management teams and neighbourhood teams.

- 3.35 The force VAWG lead has recently commissioned a PhD student from Sheffield Hallam University to conduct a study into the force's use of protective orders, from which any findings and recommendations will be reviewed for action.
- 3.36 Currently the force continues to wait for Home Office confirmation of the pilot forces for the Domestic Abuse Protection Orders. The force lead remains hopeful that South Yorkshire Police will be selected as one of the pilot forces.
- 3.37 The force had also applied to the Home Office to be a pilot force for a case file review of mobile phones and third party material. This will aim to understand the proportionate nature of phone data extractions, the time taken to obtain the information and length of time adult rape victims are without their phone. The timescales of the review have now been put back towards the end of 2022, and the force has reconfirmed support the pilot if selected.
- 3.38 Where a person has a history of perpetrating Domestic Abuse, the force can identify these offenders and proactively inform current partners of the situation. In national comparisons, the force has been noted by HMICFRS to have the third highest volume of Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme 'Right to Know' disclosures (also known as Clare's Law disclosures) per 1,000 population of the 43 forces nationally. On average, the force delivers 140 disclosures each month.
- 3.39 Right to Know cases are identified through the force's Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment team when they undertake a secondary risk assessment following an officer's initial risk assessment. Partners can also identify cases to refer to the force, either at multi-agency meetings or directly via the 101 system. Appropriate partners are consulted at all stages.
- 3.40 The force operates robustly to identify and mitigate risk in domestic abuse situations. The internal domestic abuse disclosure process mirrors the guidance provided by the home office to ensure we are operating based on approved best practice. As of August 2022, 97 per cent of disclosures were conducted within a 35-day period, aligned to guidance. Any delays are monitored on a monthly basis within regular performance meetings.

### **Stalking and Harassment**

- 3.41 The force is committed to addressing the growing awareness and reporting of stalking and harassment. The monthly volumes of recorded offences are shown in the chart below with an average of over 1700 crimes reported each month.



- 3.42 Within the total volumes of stalking and harassment, there are a subset of offences that are domestic related, and these follow the processes for DA, which incorporate a risk assessment to support the safeguarding of the victim.
- 3.43 Where there is a non-domestic stalking and harassment offence staff complete a risk assessment called an S-DASH. All staff must complete this form, which has an excellent compliance level due to enhanced focus over recent years.
- 3.44 Victim Support services now have two dedicated Stalking Advocates to support victims of non-DA stalking and harassment, ensuring there is appropriate support to victims meeting their specific needs.
- 3.45 In addition to this the force lead continues to hold a bi-monthly working group with partner agencies, which includes representation from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Victim Support and Paladin Service (the National Stalking Advocacy Service) to support continued improvements in response and delivery.
- 3.46 Internal knowledge is building through ongoing training. In 2022, training has been delivered to inspectors at district away-days across each district. A further CPD event was held in September in which over 70 officers and staff from across the force come together to expand their knowledge and share learning.
- 3.47 Throughout the day, guest speakers shared their expertise and provided training about best practise for investigating stalking and harassment offences in order to effectively identify and support potential victims and pursue those responsible for these crimes. Following an introduction from the force lead Supt Cherie Buttle, there were specific inputs from:
- Forensic Psychologist Dr Rachael Wheatley, who provided an overview of the typology of stalking offenders.
  - Nick Gazzard, the father of Hollie Gazzard, who was murdered by her ex-boyfriend in 2014, spoke about the importance of the police response to victims. More information on the work of the Hollie Gazzard Trust can be found here: <https://holliegazzard.org/>
  - Sgt Phil Butterworth from the Crime Services department spoke about the type of digital technology and devices that may be used by stalkers. This

included the use of new technologies such as Apple tags and tracking apps, which are becoming more prevalent across society.

3.48 Within the conference, Andrew Petheridge from the force's Legal Services team also provided an input on the use of Stalking Protection Orders. To date, the force has secured four such orders. Work continues to encourage protection order applications, which remain low despite the upskilling that has taken place across the force. Further learning in this area will be a focus of training for all those who chair Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences across the force, encouraging a wider consideration of order applications.

### **Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking**

3.49 The force's response to Organised Immigration Crime continues to progress with new offences implemented and training provided to officers to be able to proactively deal with investigations.

3.50 The Modern Slavery team continue to promote the use of Slavery & Trafficking Risk Orders (STROs) and Slavery & Trafficking Prevention Order (STPOs) to protect vulnerable people from their exploiters. These orders can be used to restrict the activities of those who are thought likely to exploit victims and commit MSHT offences.

3.51 No associated criminal conviction is required to underpin an STRO, which police can secure through a freestanding application to a Magistrates Court. The restrictions set can include anything that police feel is necessary to protect the public from harm. They can also be used to set restrictions on individuals who pose a risk of offending even in cases where a conviction is not achieved.

3.52 The team have a number of training packages in place and are currently undertaking training with the Force Control Room, response officers and partnerships in identifying potential victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

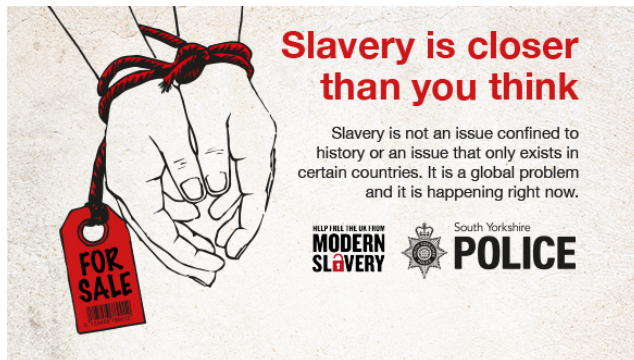
3.53 Collaboration with both statutory and non-government organisation partners also continues; including trafficking charities Snowdrop Project and sex worker charities such as SWOP (Sex Workers Outreach Project) and Chocolate box.

3.54 The Modern Slavery team are proactively working with Sheffield University in a research project to further embed the use of a tool already used in South Yorkshire called STIM. This is a risk matrix used to support the identification of trafficking online, and is used to target and streamline police activity.

3.55 This collaborative working enables the force to provide a fully rounded partnership response to threat posed by Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in South Yorkshire, building on working relationships to protect those most vulnerable.

3.56 The funding arrangements for the South Yorkshire Modern Slavery Partnership (SYMSP) look to change in the future. This has meant a pause in the activities of the SYMSP pending the process. The partnership, made up of significant organisations across the county, works to identify potential victims of slavery. This work continues and connections across the partnership are being maintained, pending the successful tender being agreed.

- 3.57 The force is also supporting the continuation of national operation 'Op Aidant'. This is a multi-agency, approach in identifying and safeguarding those most at risk from human trafficking and exploitation. Officers from the force's Modern Slavery Team are involved in this operation, which targets different areas forcewide on a quarterly basis.
- 3.58 On 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the force supported national Anti-Slavery Day, giving the force a further opportunity to raise awareness of modern slavery internally and across its media reach.



- 3.59 Internally, a recent review recommended that the governance around the trafficking of children be brought from local district teams into the Modern Slavery Team, to ensure a corporate approach to both adults and children across all force areas. To improve and bring some consistency to this, a Child Exploitation officer role has been created to sit within the Modern Slavery Team.
- 3.60 With a view to supporting future learning and development for the organisation in this area, the force has requested a Peer Review conducted by the NPCC Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime (MSOIC) national team.

### **Managing Sex Offenders**

- 3.61 The internal management of violent and sexual offenders is undertaken by specialist teams (ViSOR units) working within each of the four districts. Every registered sex offender is categorised, and visited, based on an attributed risk level. Risk levels are dictated by a nominal's offending history and other presenting factors. ViSOR units work within multi-agency teams (MAPPAs) to agree a risk management plan for each individual, and will monitor and manage the plans.
- 3.62 Good working relationships continue between ViSOR units and the neighbourhood policing teams within districts, and joint visits to nominals are undertaken. This promotes better knowledge for neighbourhood officers and promotes joint working.
- 3.63 In the previous PVP PAB report (August 2022), the force reported ongoing work to understand the future demands and establish appropriate governance and supervisory levels within the teams. The aforementioned PVP review (Phase 2) will look at processes and capacity, and will map this across the next 5 years alongside the predicted increase in registered sex offenders.

- 3.64 The recommended national ratio of managers to offenders of 1:50 is being worked towards and the force is now close to achieving this across all districts in the county, to be supported with new starters expected to join the team within the coming months. In the meantime, an improvement plan is underway, and a programme of training events is being delivered.
- 3.65 Meetings have taken place with representatives of HM Prison and Probation Service within South Yorkshire. In order to enhance joint working, a Bronze, Silver and Gold meeting structure has been agreed to ensure improved working across the organisations. This will look at joint training, and an escalation process for any disagreements in decision-making. The focus is to improve the sharing of information and ultimately the partnership management of sex offenders.
- 3.66 Continuing Professional Development training is being undertaken by the teams in a number of areas to ensure they are trained to manage the offenders in the most effective way. A Standard Operating Procedure is also being followed in relation to the management of registered sex offenders - this follows national guidance and local best practice.
- 3.67 Governance oversight for ViSOR unit activity is facilitated within the PVP Governance Unit in Crime Services, and the team has completed the build of a performance dashboard, which supports supervisory decision-making, providing ease of access to relevant datasets.

### **Vulnerability**

- 3.68 The force is working actively to support engagement channels for victims. From a basic level of awareness raising, the force works in partnership with a range of organisations to display information about contacting the police and the various means to do so across their estate where vulnerable people may attend.
- 3.69 There are several initiatives to support vulnerable people contacting the police and police officers and staff in their response:
- Police Link Officers for Deaf People scheme (known as PLOD). The network promotes equal access to the police for people within South Yorkshire that are d/Deaf or hard of hearing. The numbers of officers currently trained in British Sign Language are low although interest is increasing, with more people anticipated to engage with the network.
  - SYP has over 200 people registered with alert cards. Where people register for an alert card it means that the force will hold information (with consent of the subject), recorded on the call handling system and investigations system. The individual also gets a physical card that they can use as required during an interaction with an officer. When used the officers can access specific information about the vulnerable person. This allows them clarity in terms of their bespoke communication or behavioural needs. The cards are administered and updated in partnership with health agencies.
  - The force has identified opportunities to make the website more accessible for some communities. A new website is being created, incorporating an easy read area to make it more accessible to the public who may have additional communication needs. Work on this is currently pending, but will improve access to information for all communities.



- The internal vulnerability intranet page carries information about vulnerability, including links to information from the College of Policing and our NVAP (National Vulnerability Action Plan), with good practice drawn from other forces for them to draw upon.
- Training has been delivered at CPD events to support officers in understanding autism, and training is also provided to all new Custody staff.
- Videos have been created by service users on suicide awareness, and in an article in the SYP&ME magazine, an officer talks about his experience of suicide amongst colleagues.

3.70 In addition to the significant training updated provided within the August PAB around vulnerability, the force lead for Vulnerability, Superintendent Benn Kemp reports that the force is trialling training for frontline staff on a Communication Access <sup>1</sup>training site. This will support staff to communicate effectively with those who have communication difficulties. If training is deemed beneficial, it will be recommended for wider roll out. Roll out will mean the force is committing to the standards of the organisation, and will be able to display the Communication Access symbol – this would demonstrate the force’s commitment to accessible communication, and more importantly should encourage those with communication difficulties to have confidence in their interactions with the force.

3.71 Over the previous 12-month period (September 2021 to August 2022), there is no significant difference between the satisfaction of vulnerable victims and the satisfaction of the other victim groups sampled. Overall satisfaction with attended crimes was significantly lower for vulnerable victims than the other groups sampled, however satisfaction with non-attended crimes was statistically the same for vulnerable victims and the other groups.

3.72 In the same period, looking at the aspects of service, satisfaction with actions taken, follow up and treatment were significantly lower for vulnerable victims than the other groups sampled. Providing an enhanced service for vulnerable victims is a focus for the force, and action in this area should improve the satisfaction results in comparison with the other groups surveyed.

3.73 The latest quarter of vulnerable victim satisfaction data is taken from surveys delivered in June to August 2022. This suggests that the overall satisfaction for vulnerable victims is the same as the satisfaction for the other groups sampled – 73 per cent of victims are satisfied with the overall service provided. There is no significant difference between vulnerable victim satisfaction and the satisfaction of the other groups sampled for any aspect of service between June and August 2022.

## **4 FUTURE DIRECTION/DEVELOPMENT**

4.1 SYP will focus on areas of delivery from this report, and will continue to report in the future on:

- The progress of internal training and delivery
- The progress of reviews of structures and processes across PVP

<sup>1</sup> <https://communication-access.co.uk/>

- The delivery in respect of RASSO, DA and the wider programme for Violence against Women and Girls
- The support given to vulnerable persons in contact with the policing service.

**5 COMMUNICATIONS**

NONE

**6 EXCEPTION REPORTING**

NONE

**Chief Officer Lead:** Deputy Chief Constable Tim Forber

**Report Author:** Tania Percy, Strategic Performance Manager

**END**

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

## **SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PRIORITIES**

**THEME: TACKLING CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)**

## **REPORT OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

### **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) around progress against the Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour priority of the Police and Crime Plan Safer Streets More Police 2022-2025, to support the PCC's overarching aim of South Yorkshire being a safe place in which to live, learn, work and travel.

### **2 RECOMMENDATION(S) AND / OR DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

- 2.1 The force recommends that the PCC considers and discusses the contents of this report and considers whether further assurance is required in relation to the progress made to meet the police and crime plan priority.

### **3 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY ASSESSMENT**

- 3.1 This report will present a brief summary of some of the work undertaken in Tackling Crime and ASB, in delivering the Police and Crime Plan during the current period. This report will provide evidence of approach and delivery within the following areas:

- Public access to services
- Horizon Scanning / Forward Planning
- Retail Crime
- Most Serious Violence
- Neighbourhood and Organised Acquisitive Crime
- Offender Management

#### **Background**

- 3.2 In 2019, HMICFRS rated the force as 'Good' in the extent to which the force is effective at reducing crime and keeping people safe. Within this, the force was rated as 'Good' in the following areas:-

- How effective is the force at preventing crime, tackling anti-social behaviour and keeping people safe?

- How effective is the force at investigating crime and reducing re-offending?
  - How effective is the force at protecting those who are vulnerable from harm, and supporting victims?
  - How effective is the force at tackling serious and organised crime?
- 3.3 The force is currently being reviewed within the PEEL Assessment inspection process, whereby HMICFRS scrutinise all areas of force delivery and will deliver an up to date judgement of the force's performance. The results of the inspection are expected to be published in early 2023.
- 3.4 The force has outlined for HMICFRS in our most recent Force Management Statement the challenges in place in this area of delivery. Detective vacancies and the growing complexity of investigations are raised nationally as a challenge for the wider policing service provision. The increasing digital footprint within investigations is also a demand challenge for the organisation.
- 3.5 In taking action to prevent and reduce the volume of recorded crimes, the force also works to bring more offenders to justice and provide a quality service for victims of crime. There is a continued focus on serious violent offending, including domestic abuse, rape offences and violence against women and girls, as well as crimes against children, where those responsible for children are subjecting them to harm or neglect. This is balanced with the work of neighbourhood teams locally in supporting a reduction in burglaries, vehicle theft, and robbery offending, and dealing with specific local priority issues.

#### **Public access to services**

- 3.6 The volume of emergency calls into the Force Control Room (FCR) remains high. With 26,640 calls, August 2022 recorded the highest volume of 999 calls received in the same month of the last 4 years.
- 3.7 Despite this, the force continues to deliver improvements in reducing the waiting time for the public, which has been a specific area of focus. On average, a 999 caller was waiting nine seconds in August 2022, which is a reduction from 12 seconds in July 2022. This improvement means that the force is now answering 81 per cent of 999 calls within 10 seconds.
- 3.8 A different dataset provided by BT, which is used nationally to enable comparison of call answering times across all forces, shows a service level of 74.9 per cent of 999 calls being answered within 10 seconds. There are recording differences in the dataset to account for the different results, but the BT data is also showing an improvement in South Yorkshire from the last month (increase of four percentage points). The force is now recording a performance level above the national average of 70 per cent.
- 3.9 The tracking of the daily wait time in August 2022 is shown in *Figure 1* below, with the dark blue line showing the average answered wait time each day for the 999 calls presented.

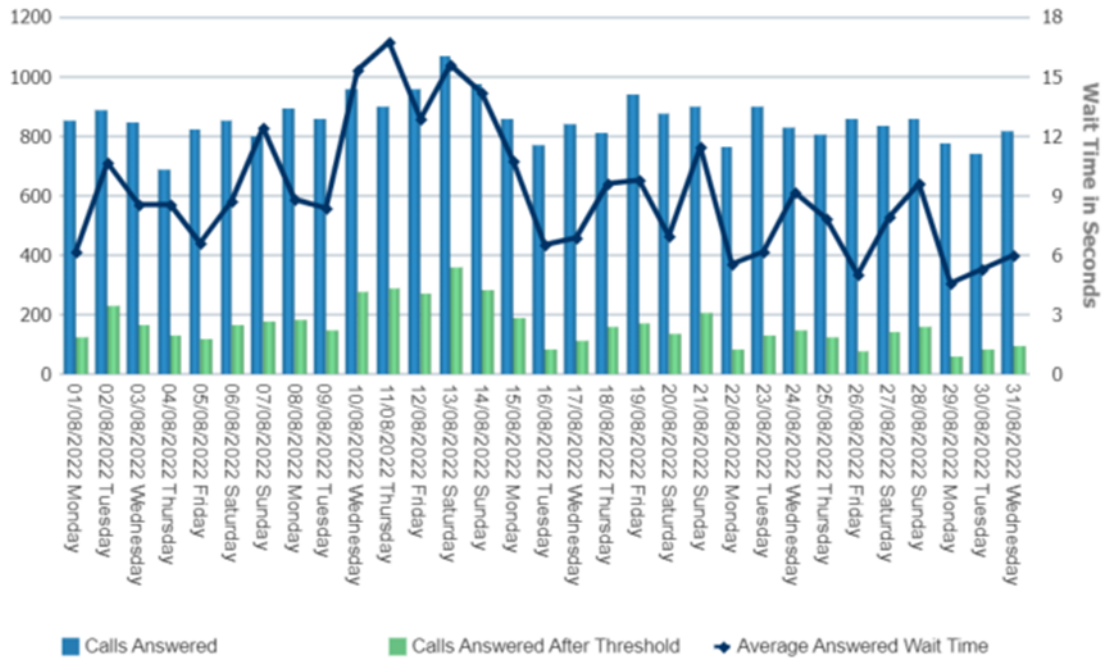


Figure 1 - 999 Call Handling , August 2022

- 3.10 As the force prioritises 999 calls given the acknowledged concern for public harm, wait times for 101 calls are generally longer. The average wait time in August 2022 was just under 9 minutes 30 seconds, which is an increase on the 5 minutes 30 seconds reported in May 2022. Callers are given the option to use 'Call Back Assist' after being on hold over 120 seconds.
- 3.11 Whilst this is not a service level the force would like to be providing, in a similar picture to 999 calls, 101 calls were high in August 2022 with 34,483 calls received during August 2022, which is the highest number of calls per month during 2022 so far, and a 15 per cent increase on July 2022.
- 3.12 In addition to the 999 and 101 calls received, during August 2022 the force received over four thousand email enquiries, over two thousand online reports and over one thousand web chats, that were serviced via the Digital Desk.
- 3.13 Since the introduction of multiplicity in June 2022 meaning that the Digital Desk Assistants can communicate with more than one web chat at a time, wait times and abandonment rates have seen continued improvements. The longest wait time for webchat in August 2022 was 41 seconds.
- 3.14 The force is expecting to trial Interactive Voice Response (IVR) this month in the hope that this will improve service for non-emergency calls. This is an automated phone system feature that interacts with callers and gives them choices via a menu; it then performs actions based on the response of the caller through the telephone keypad. In addition to this, the force is working with providers to re-trial Queue Buster. A business case has also been completed for Single Online Home, which will be the new platform for managing digital contact in to the FCR.

- 3.15 There are several aspects that can impact upon the force's ability to respond quickly to calls, such as the number and timing of the calls, the complexity of the calls, and the number of people available to answer calls. The force can do little to impact on the immediate number or timing of calls, and whilst the complexity can be assessed, it cannot be mitigated in the initial response. As such, the area of focus for the organisation is to ensure that there are a sufficient number of appropriately trained staff to work in the call handling teams in support of anticipated volumes.
- 3.16 The process of recruitment has been ongoing for the Force Control Room from some time. There is an intake of 22 Call Resolution Officers who are due to be fully trained and deployed to take calls from 19th September, and a further intake of 12 recruits commenced training on the 12th September. A further 11 staff members and one new manager will be recruited during October 2022.
- 3.17 This will bring the force into a good position in terms of staffing, with the main concern being the resources assigned to the dispatching of officers. However, a further course for five new team members within dispatch in November 2022 will see the remaining vacancies filled.
- 3.18 The department remains focussed on continued improvements in service, and as processes are supported by a reduction in vacancies, there is a further expectation of improvements in call wait times for the public over the coming months.
- 3.19 The refurbishment of the Force Control Room accommodation is underway and progressing well. The refurbishment plan was designed in a phased approach to ensure minimal disruption to staff and no disruption to service for the public.
- 3.20 In response to the recent HMICFRS spotlight report '*Finding time for crime – police responses to burglary, robbery and other acquisitive crime*', the force has reviewed the training given to staff in relation to scene preservation and crime prevention advice. This training has been presented and further circulated to all staff, and the force's incident handling protocols have been updated to incorporate the changes.
- 3.21 The force has also reviewed its quality assurance process to include key areas such as repeat victim identification, safety advice given to callers and CSI advice. This information is used to identify, develop and support staff who may require improvement in this area.
- 3.22 Not all reports of crime originate via the Force Control Room or via the online reporting system. Members of the public may also attend police stations or report directly to an officer on patrol. The force requested a peer review, which was undertaken by West Yorkshire Police in 2021, and this highlighted a potential risk around the reporting of 'hidden demand', particularly ASB.
- 3.23 To ensure accurate recording and a consistent level of service, regardless of reporting methods, all enquiry desk staff have access to Smart Contact and are

able to record incidents reported by members of the public who attend police stations. Once recorded on Smart Contact, these are then reviewed by the service desk team within the Force Control Room.

- 3.24 Where a crime is more serious or complex, the enquiry desk will request an officer to attend to take the report and the officer would record this via their personal device, as they would if approached whilst out on patrol. Audits can be undertaken of reports taken at the front desk, and this is included on the risk-based audit matrix to assure compliance with policy and procedure.
- 3.25 Reports received directly to officers by members of the public are directly recorded on Connect or Pronto. This process allows for officers to conduct the usual investigative activity including assessments, lines of enquiry and actions taken. The investigation is then sent for quality checking and will be assessed for data accuracy and allocated to the necessary team or district depending on where and when it occurred. At this point, district supervision would then undertake a review and a further risk assessment.
- 3.26 Reports received by neighbourhood policing teams via email mailboxes are also audited to ensure incidents are recorded as per the NSIR and the HOCR and these are also included on the risk-based audit.
- 3.27 The force has embedded processes for officers to recognise the National Standards of Incident Reporting (NSIR) and the Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR) requirements alongside the ability to record crimes via mobile devices, which helps to ensure accuracy and compliance.
- 3.28 The use of THRIVE (Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation, Vulnerability, and Engagement) and the VAF (Vulnerability Assessment Framework) risk assessments are well known and used across the organisation to assess the risk of victims. The force also uses repeat vulnerable victim assessments where crimes or incidents are reported to neighbourhood policing teams who have knowledge of the victim's previous victim status.
- 3.29 Recent changes to the vulnerability pick list have been designed to make identifying relevant vulnerability strands much easier and has brought the force in alignment with College of Policing (CoP) guidance on assessing vulnerability.
- 3.30 To understand a current position, the force has recently conducted a pilot over a 7-day period using four City/Town Centre neighbourhood policing teams using a manual form on Microsoft Forms, which covered a bespoke set of questions. The results of this pilot are currently being analysed which will feed into various governance structures including Crime Data Accuracy gold group, and the force's Neighbourhood Policing Board.
- 3.31 In April 2022, the Force Crime Bureau (FCB) was reallocated from the Force Control Room to sit within the Crime Services department. When an incident or online report is received in the Force Crime Bureau it is initially risk assessed by the Admin Desk who ensure that it does not require a deployment and is

suitable for the officers and staff within the bureau to take ownership of. A user guide supports this decision making for the team.

- 3.32 The bureau staff will review the vulnerability risk assessment carried out by and either refer back for further clarity or re-assess and pass back for officer attendance if they feel this is appropriate.
- 3.33 The crime bureau also prioritise the recording of high-risk investigations such as sexual offences, hate crimes and domestic abuse, amongst others. Other factors are considered when completing risk assessments such as the proximity of the offender, danger to life, seriousness of injuries, vulnerability, the interest of public safety, scene preservation, probable escalation or any other factor that suggests a prompt response is required.
- 3.34 New recruits within the bureau have a dedicated departmental tutor and a performance team leader. A structured approach to feedback and training has been adopted with prompt action being taken as and when any improvements are identified.

#### **Horizon Scanning and Future Focus**

- 3.35 The force horizon scanning process has been developed over the last 12 months and is looking ahead to a longer period to consider the issues which may impact on the force and wider South Yorkshire areas. This process is improving how the force anticipates, identifies, assesses and action a broad range of issues that could influence the forces demand and the impact this could have.
- 3.36 The process now includes:
- Weekly horizon scanning to identify forthcoming issues under political, socio-economic, legislative, technological and environmental themes, circulated to thematic and business area leads.
  - Monthly review, assessment and tracking of those key issues to allow the force to assess the potential impact
  - Referral of these issues into the Strategic Demand Board, which is chaired by the Deputy Chief Constable and attended by senior stakeholders from across the force and the OPCC.
  - Informing other governance groups within the force, such as the People Board, to support plans and decision making around future resourcing, skills and capabilities.
  - Some examples of future issues identified through this process that could lead to changes in crime demand include some of the draft legislation listed in this year's Queens Speech, new IT developments providing the public with alternative ways to provide information to the police, and how the wider economic climate is affecting our communities in various ways.
- 3.37 The force has reviewed and improved and is introducing further developments in forecasting future incident and crime demand. This includes exploring how other external variables can refine the analysis of crime patterns and trends and building this in to existing tools and techniques.



- 3.38 Forecasting and subsequent predictions are incorporated into the annual Force Management Statement and other demand assessments that the force undertake throughout the year, for example in both the change programme and the savings and efficiency programme.
- 3.39 The force is cognisant that the current economic climate will lead to partner agencies facing challenges, some of which could have long-lasting implications on demand for the police. However, at this stage, with the cost of living crisis being better understood, no specific details are yet known.
- 3.40 The force continues to forward plan for more imminent events including Operation Dark Nights. This annual operation will take place from 28 October to 6 November 2022 and involves local neighbourhood police resources and partners proactively working together to tackle the expected seasonal rise in anti-social behaviour.
- 3.41 To enhance the policing capability, key dates during this period will also see resources from the Operational Support Unit (OSU) supporting local districts where high demand is anticipated. Both visible engagement and enforcement action will take place and the force will have a dedicated Silver Public Order Safety Commander overseeing and co-ordinating the operational plan.
- 3.42 The plans in place ensure that the force is in a proactive position to respond to ASB-related issues associated with the time of year and maintain business as usual. The force has had great success in working as part of the emergency services response across South Yorkshire and with partner agencies as part of previous Dark Nights operations, and fully expect this to be the case in 2022.
- 3.43 A change from a summer football World Cup will see a winter tournament held in Qatar from 21 November to 18 December 2022. This will coincide with the Christmas festive period, where more people attend parties and celebrations on the run up to Christmas itself, impacting on the demand, largely in the night time economy.
- 3.44 Again, a dedicated Silver Public Order Safety Commander will oversee and co-ordinate the operational plan. With a break from the domestic football season occurring because of the World Cup, the force will be able to ensure it has sufficient resources to manage demand throughout this period.
- 3.45 Whilst the tournament is held overseas, there is an expectation of higher footfall in bars and across the night time economy. Sadly, Domestic Abuse increases are often associated with the aftermath of the England national team playing in important tournaments. Led by the force's lead for Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), the force will be running a targeted VAWG operation during the World Cup period. Again, the Operational Support Unit will provide additional resourcing and specialist support to policing plans throughout.
- 3.46 Whilst the force naturally has to place some annual leave restrictions for its staff at times of high demand, wherever possible it is done in a proportionate way.

The force targets change in duties to occur only for the highest expected demand dates and spreads any amendments to duties across the full operational spectrum of deployable resources. This is also to ensure staff well-being concerns are minimised, having sufficient staff to manage demand and workload as best as possible, supporting each other and balancing the ability for officers to take appropriate time off to be with families.

### **Retail Crime**

- 3.47 In line with the requirements of the Police and Crime Plan, the force has placed emphasis retail crime and keeping retail workers safe. The force has appointed a Thematic Lead in the area of retail crime who has identified points of contact across each district to link in with local businesses to understand the key issues in each locality.
- 3.48 The forces response to retail and business crime differs across the county with a number of processes, local arrangements and plans in place. Much of this is established and evidences good practice. For example in Sheffield there are dedicated retail crime officers. Their role is to manage reports of retail theft, develop efficient communication links with local businesses, have good knowledge of repeat offenders and offer crime prevention advice.
- 3.49 The force holds a quarterly retail crime forum with representatives from all four districts attending to discuss a number of subjects;
- **Vulnerable and repeat locations** – local arrangements, operations, visibility, engagement and security arrangements
  - **Offender management** – Response to prolific offenders, links with Integrated Offender Management (IOM), liaison and diversion, and plans to tackle linked organised criminality
  - **Emerging trends** and any other useful information pertinent to retail crime, Cybercrime, online fraud and ATM theft.
  - **Victims** – local partnership arrangements and forums, response to child criminal exploitation (CCE) and other vulnerabilities, and violence against shop workers.
- 3.50 Police engagement with businesses and retailers is healthy with good links made in key retail areas across the county. It is clear that many retail business centres create high demand on the police service and therefore many feature as problem solving areas for the force. These locations have a bespoke Problem Oriented Policing Plan (POP Plan) which is managed by the local neighbourhood teams. The plans are reviewed regularly at command and force level.
- 3.51 Whilst demand from shoplifting has not been increasing to the pre-pandemic levels, there is some future expectation of such offences with the rising cost of living impacting across a wide proportion of people within the county.
- 3.52 Feedback received from retailers identified concerns about attacks against shop workers and staff. Although there is limited data to support this, there is clearly a requirement for officers to offer advice and reassurance. This

highlights the importance of ongoing police engagement, patrols and reassurance, which feature in the aforementioned problem solving plans.

- 3.53 Recent guidance and information has been shared with retailers relating to S156 Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. This legislation provides additional aggravating factors affecting sentencing for assaults on retailers and those providing a public service or providing services, goods or facilities to the public. The guidance provides information around reporting, victim personal statements and an impact statement for businesses.
- 3.54 The force lead for retail crime is currently in discussion with local businesses around what local provisions and training they have for staff when managing conflict. This is potentially something that the force may be able to provide advice around with support from the Community Safety Department.
- 3.55 The force will be participating in a national week of action in October 2022. At the time of writing, local district plans are to be confirmed, but this will include engagement, crime prevention and visibility in key retail areas.

### **Most Serious Violence**

- 3.56 Given the national focus on reducing Most Serious Violence (MSV) and the high rates of MSV crimes in South Yorkshire, work has been completed to update the terms of reference for the Serious Violent Crime Programme Board. All districts and key departments are represented and are required to contribute quarterly updates on intelligence, performance, problem solving work and any offences of particular note.
- 3.57 The force has allocated a £300k budget for innovative operations to tackle serious violent crime in addition to the work of the previously mentioned Grip team. Meetings are held on a regular basis to identify where this money is best directed in conjunction with the long-term plans. The Grip team then co-ordinate activity with a focus on organised crime and drug market related violence, violence present in the night time economy, sexual violence, domestic abuse and football violence.
- 3.58 Following the national briefing on homicide prevention at New Scotland Yard in June 2022, the NPCC lead and representatives from the Home Office, HMICFRS and the College of Policing travelled to South Yorkshire to obtain an update on the forces approach to homicide prevention and were particularly interested in the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) as well as custody and hospital navigator projects.
- 3.59 There is work ongoing nationally to update the 'What Works' database for homicide and serious violence crime prevention in order to devise a national strategy and framework for forces to follow, including a template for a problem profile. The NPCC lead is also advocating a 'quick time debrief' procedure for all homicides and attempted homicides with a focus on preventing further violence.

- 3.60 MSV volumes over the summer months has been as forecast for the 'summer surge' period. There were 175 offences in June 2022, 163 in July 2022, and 164 in August 2022, which are seen as comparable with previous years. This dataset includes including domestic abuse, prison offending and offences in private spaces. Most recently, all districts have seen a reduction in serious violence into September.
- 3.61 The Grip Team were successful in their bid for £1.09m and the Grip project will be funded for the next three years. The focus will be on high visibility patrols over 60 hot spot areas identified using a combination of the crime count and the use of the Cambridge Crime Harm Index.
- 3.62 Money has been allocated to problem solving work at districts. Targeted patrols re-commenced on the 11 July 2022 whereby officers patrol the hotspots on overtime 7 days a week. An evaluation of the effectiveness of such patrols will be conducted alongside the Cambridge Centre for Evidence Based Policing. The Home Office have requested that a randomised control trial take place as part of this evaluation.
- 3.63 The next Op Sceptre, which is a knife crime week of action will take place from 11-20<sup>th</sup> November. Work is ongoing across districts, departments and the violence reduction unit to co-ordinate a programme of enforcement activity, prevention and education activity as well as media releases.
- 3.64 Work is ongoing as part of the Serious Violent Crime Programme Board to better understand the causes behind increases in homicide and firearms offences and a problem profile has been commissioned internally.
- 3.65 Sheffield Hallam University has also been approached through the Evidence Based Policing Board to conduct research into organised crime linked homicides with a view to identifying the root causes of offending and offering recommendations on preventative strategies.
- 3.66 Firearms discharges in 2022 initially saw an increase through the first part of the year but have since stabilised with a slight increase in Sheffield from this point last year and a slight increase in Doncaster. There have been reductions in both Rotherham and Barnsley. Within the overall volumes, there has been an increase of stolen firearms seen from registered firearms holders.
- 3.67 In the first quarter of 2022, 15 firearms had been recovered in South Yorkshire. This has now increased to 28 viable firearms, all of which have been submitted for forensic testing and enquiries are ongoing to identify suspects.
- 3.68 Responding to an increase in violent crime in the West of Sheffield in 2022, a small team of dedicated officers have worked patrolling identified hotspot areas in order to maximise opportunities for engagement, enforcement and to generate intelligence with the objective of reducing gang related violence.
- 3.69 The work commenced in April 2022 and ran for a total of three months with support from neighbourhood policing teams, response teams and some partner

agencies. The identification and understanding of issues and intelligence received during this period provides a pathway for the neighbourhood policing teams to continue to focus.

- 3.70 Some of the activities and achievements include, but are not limited to;
- Nine key nominals arrested for possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply
  - One key burglary suspect arrested for multiple commercial burglaries in Sheffield
  - One of Rotherham's most wanted burglary suspects arrested
  - Over 30 stop and searches
  - £10,000 worth of drugs recovered from dealers
  - 14 bladed items recovered and off the streets
  - One property associated with drug use and supply boarded up and access denied
  - Four significant victims of 'cuckooing' identified and work has been done to safeguard, including the creation of repeat vulnerable victim plans.
  - Five knife arch deployments and ten knife test purchase visits, utilising the Youth Independent Advisory Group (IAG).
- 3.71 In addition to the enforcement activity, the team have engaged with community groups and created engagement plans, utilised social media and local media to raise awareness of key issues and activity, and engagement stalls were set up within the local area.
- 3.72 Based on the insight gained during this three-month period, the team have provided the respective neighbourhood policing teams with recommendations to manage the key issues moving forward.
- 3.73 The Armed Crime Team currently have an active workload of 60 investigations, which includes 18 investigations linked directly to a firearms discharge / violence, 18 crimes linked to recovered / found firearms, and the remaining investigations are related to other offending such as drugs or modern slavery.
- 3.74 The ongoing activity of the Armed Crime Team and the expansion of the team continues to have an impact based around the high volumes of 2019/20. Specific operations targeting geographical locations, incorporating the local neighbourhood teams into the work of the Armed Crime Team and Crime Services has proved to be very effective.
- 3.75 Recently, following a lengthy investigation, five suspects have been charged in relation to four firearms incidents (three of which were firearms discharges in the Abbeydale area of Sheffield over an eight week period in 2020).
- 3.76 A male has also been further sentenced to six years imprisonment for the possession of a number of firearms and handling stolen goods, which were stolen during a burglary at a gunsmith in 2020. The same male was previously given a sentence of five and a half years in 2021 for possession of a handgun, and both investigations were handled by the Armed Crime Team.

- 3.77 A further business plan around the forces future approach to armed criminality is being developed by the force lead for 2023/24 business plans.

**Neighbourhood and Organised Acquisitive Crime**

- 3.78 The force is cognisant of the national focus on reducing neighbourhood crime and recognises the rates of some neighbourhood crime offences within South Yorkshire to be amongst the highest nationally.
- 3.79 Previous PAB reports have provided a strong contextual background to understand the governance and delivery areas around neighbourhood crime. This section seeks to build upon this, with reference to the work across the force to address the current rates of crime
- 3.80 The focus in Sheffield continues to show positive indicators of control over neighbourhood crime. Whilst there have been slight increases most recently, generally there have been reductions in volumes across neighbourhood crime.
- 3.81 An allocation policy has taken effect to assign investigators to specific neighbourhood areas. This is already displaying improvements in a move away from silo working and toward tackling the challenges together. Ownership of an area improves intelligence development, positive working relationships and local area knowledge.
- 3.82 The focus on forensic management has gained momentum from the Crime Support Hub (CSH) who are working to assist districts in the effective management of forensic hits.
- 3.83 Evidential imagery is an area the force is keen to focus on more in future. The age of door cams, improved CCTV and other means of visual capture of an offender are bringing greater results from the lines of enquiry in addition to fingerprint, footwear or DNA samples. As such, the force lead is keen to focus on ensuring all opportunities are taken to collect and utilise such evidence to assist in bringing offenders to justice.
- 3.84 The force recognises the links between the traditionally named Serious Acquisitive Crime (burglary, vehicle crime and robbery) and organised criminality, through the efficient and effective use of MoRiLE<sup>1</sup> processes and local intelligence profiling.
- 3.85 A Serious Organised Crime (SOC) local profile was published internally in August 2022, and this confirmed that there are a proportion of Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) in South Yorkshire with a primary threat of acquisitive crime, typically involving metal or vehicle thefts.
- 3.86 Such analytical profiles enable the identification of intelligence requirements to drive operational activity. Through the Fortify brand, district partnership 'bronze'

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/management-of-risk-in-law-enforcement-morile-based-scoring>

meetings are held monthly to report on progress on plans for all mapped OCGs, including those with the threat of organised acquisitive crime.

- 3.87 The governance structures in place to manage organised criminality enable the identification of those aligned to serious acquisitive offending. OCG ownership internally is selected based on which teams can have the most impact through appropriate disruptions.
- 3.88 The force uses a 4-P plan (Prevent, Pursue, Protect, Prepare) approach to both organised crime and neighbourhood crime. This ensures that criminality is tackled through multiple lenses and allows for problem solving to be at the forefront of activity. This approach also allows multiple stakeholders to be involved in the process.
- 3.89 The force will continue to work with partners and prosecuting agencies to ensure that criminal investigations in to organised acquisitive crime are widely supported from the earliest stages of intelligence gathering, to enforcement activity and through to potential prosecution.
- 3.90 The force considers a further stage of work is required to responding to repeat victims of neighbourhood criminality. Whilst there are measures in place to provide a level of service to all victims, more evidence-based understanding is being considered at a national level. Measures taken to target harden repeat victims / locations have seen some success elsewhere and the work to implement a similar approach is being considered by the force lead.
- 3.91 Whilst not all vehicle crimes routinely require a deployable policing resource due to a lack of evidential opportunities (and where no victim vulnerability is established), within Rotherham South NPT area the teams are testing an approach whereby PCSOs routinely attend reported vehicle crime incidents. This is working to establish if there are investigative opportunities being missed in initial reporting, as well as to support the expectation of victims. The force has previously reported the current resourcing difficulties across the districts, and this pilot will seek to understand if there are crime reduction or victim satisfaction benefits to this investment.
- 3.92 Given the links between drugs and acquisitive crime, the force continues with the project to undertake drug testing on arrest in the custody areas. This has seen a significant grant awarded from the Home Office, following a successful trial earlier this year.
- 3.93 Unsurprisingly, the recent drugs problem profile has continued to highlight links between drugs and serious violent crime. Further training is being provided to the Evidence Review Officers and Crime Supervisors to effectively deal with those who are arrested for supply offences with a view to seeking remands where possible. The district Fortify teams are now preparing localised plans in response. The profile author is also supporting a separate version of the profile which is suitable for sharing with partnership agencies.

- 3.94 A benchmarking exercise is being undertaken with police forces that have rolled out the use of Naloxone (which reverses the suppression of the respiratory system) to deal with opiate overdose in a bid to reduce the number of drugs deaths.
- 3.95 Barnsley continue work to identify cannabis factories around the town and are investigating 'professional enablers' who are key to the daily running of this type of operation. There has also been recent work to identify victims of 'cuckooing' to map locations and offenders.
- 3.96 In Sheffield, a designated drugs development team has been established that seeks out disruption opportunities around drugs lines. Aligned to this, the Fortify team in Sheffield have been working with Derbyshire Constabulary in cross border enforcement, leading to significant arrests.
- 3.97 Sheffield have also submitted their first Drug Dealing Telecommunications Order (DDTRO) to the County Court and further training around drugs and county lines has been completed in force.
- 3.98 Rotherham continues to target cannabis grows have been set up in the area. Between July and September 2022, 27 warrants have been executed, with 5,217 plants seized, holding a potential value of £5,477,850. To date, seven people have been charged with cannabis production offences. Rotherham has also reported 18 arrests in relation to Class A drug offences and approximately 240 wraps of heroin/cocaine/crack cocaine recovered.
- 3.99 Doncaster have continued with significant OCG disruption through the execution of warrants and the recovery of significant amounts of controlled drugs. The work includes
- Male charged and remanded for possession with intent to sell 150 wraps and bulk cannabis
  - Arrest of male with 100 wraps of class A following the execution of a warrant
  - Following searches, a significant 'stash point' of Class A recovered for forensic examination
  - Following a vehicle stop, £8000 of unexplained cash recovered, suspected to be the proceeds of drugs dealing
  - Various other warrants by Doncaster Tasking Team recovering £5000 cash and Class A drugs.
- 3.100 Doncaster's Fortify team have also worked with HM Prison Service, proactively leading to the recovery of a drone with drugs and mobile phones attached. This is a significant recovery given the use of drones within the prison environment.

### **Antisocial Behaviour incidents**

- 3.101 In July 2022, the force ASB lead launched the first ASB Symposium in South Yorkshire.



3.102 At the event, the force adopted, recognised and relaunched the new NPCC ASB Delivery Principles, of which work is ongoing to ensure that force systems and processes are aligned to achieving the principles. These include;

- Victims should be encouraged to report ASB and expect to be taken seriously. They should have clear ways to report, have access to help and support to recover, and be given the opportunity to choose restorative approaches to tackling ASB.
- Agencies will have clear and transparent processes to ensure that victims can report ASB concerns, can understand how the matter will be investigated and are kept well informed of progress once a report is made.
- Agencies and practitioners will work across boundaries to identify, assess and tackle ASB and its underlying causes. Referral pathways should be clearly set out between services and published locally. This includes pathways for the community trigger and health services.
- The public's ASB concerns should always be considered both nationally and locally in strategic needs assessments for community safety. Best practice should be shared through a network of ASB experts within each community safety partnership, each policing area and nationally.
- Adults and children who exhibit ASB should have the opportunity to take responsibility for their behaviour and repair the harm caused by it. Agencies should deliver appropriate interventions, which may include criminal justice options, based on the seriousness, risk and vulnerabilities of the case.

3.103 The symposium has been designed to allow the opportunity for best practice locally and nationally to be articulated to staff, primarily from neighbourhood policing teams and relevant partners.

3.104 The next ASB symposium is scheduled for 24 November 2022. This will include guest speakers from the Home Office and will detail the proposed changes to the Vagrancy Act.

3.105 The force is conscious that there is a lack of national evidence based research on the effectiveness of ASB orders and interventions in reducing ASB and crime. The force has therefore sponsored a PHD student from Sheffield Hallam University who will be looking at this key area and has plans to come in to force during October/November this year to commence the process of collecting data.

### **Offender Management**

3.106 The force recognises that the management of offenders is a key part of achieving the Police and Crime Plan. The Integrated Offender Management (IOM) teams work towards the South Yorkshire Police Integrated Offender Management Strategy and are fully engaged in implementing the national IOM

strategy, both of which support the Police and Crime Plan and the forces Plan on a Page.

- 3.107 District intelligence units ensure that they are aware of those offenders who present the highest risk of harm. Meetings are held at each district whereby the highest risk offenders and repeat suspects are discussed.
- 3.108 THRIVE Meetings are held at each district in relation to neighbourhood crime, domestic abuse, Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) to identify a picture of emerging suspects and repeat offenders. These are attended by neighbourhood teams allowing sharing of intelligence.
- 3.109 All neighbourhood teams have strong links to the Fortify and armed crime teams where information is shared through the partnership meetings. Bronze Fortify meetings take place on a fortnightly basis, bringing together a number of partners both internally and externally to discuss the management of offenders, including those involved in CCE, at both a victim and suspect level.
- 3.110 Neighbourhood teams also obtain a wealth of information from their engagement activities and partnership work, particularly PCSOs who are active in their communities on a daily basis, speaking with community members and business owners. Intelligence provided by members of the public will always be a critical requirement for the policing service, enabling resources to be best directed to support local needs.
- 3.111 The force media team regularly share court results and updates on relevant cases online, which the public can access. This displays the work conducted by the force to provide reassurance to the public on the action taken against offenders. The media team also share 'wanted' appeals or appeals for information on offenders from which vital information can be obtained.
- 3.112 Intelligence submissions are monitored as part of the force reporting processes and information is managed and disseminated by local intelligence cells across the force. These intelligence submissions result in a number of warrant applications, for example where the discovery of cannabis factories are located and organised criminality can be disrupted. Additionally, neighbourhood inspectors attend weekly meetings to discuss the management of OCGs with information regularly exchanged in this forum.
- 3.113 The force has a rating system to risk assess all outstanding suspects, taking in to account the crime type, whether the crime is domestic abuse related and the vulnerability attached. This gives the suspect a risk rating and is available to support operational delivery. It is not used to overrule the experience of officers in their understanding of local priorities, but to support a quick view understanding of the potential risk to others within the pool of suspects, supporting prioritisation decision-making.
- 3.114 A 'Crime Manager' dashboard displays the information for outstanding and wanted suspects. An offender dashboard is being created to monitor and

manage the activity of known offenders, providing details of nominals in each IOM cohort. In addition to this, the force is developing a Violence Against Women and Girls reporting tool, which identifies the top 20 offenders, complimenting a similar approach with domestic abuse offenders.

- 3.115 Neighbourhood teams are aware of the Domestic Abuse offenders in their neighbourhoods who have been served with Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) and these are managed directly by the neighbourhood officers.
- 3.116 Each district IOM team has a monthly Multi Agency Case Conference where IOM nominals are discussed. The teams are co-located enabling information sharing and allowing for a multi-agency response.
- 3.117 An Information Sharing Agreement is being finalised between the police and partners for the sharing of information regarding offenders who are IOM nominals. The agreement has been signed by all parties, and awaiting sign off internally by the force's Data Office, who deal with the sharing of information.

#### **4 EXCEPTION REPORTING**

NONE

#### **5 FUTURE DIRECTION / DEVELOPMENT**

- 5.1 SYP will continue to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour and identify emerging issues as they arise. Work continues to ensure the public safety needs are understood and delivered against, and that internally the workforce is protected appropriately, supporting individuals to minimise the impact on organisational delivery.
- 5.2 Over the next 12 months, our focus includes:
- working within communities and across partnerships to solve local problems and acting on the feedback from the public
  - working to reduce the volumes of neighbourhood crime within local communities
  - working to deliver continued improvements to investigative processes in support of bringing offenders to justice
  - continuing specific activity such as the work of the Armed Crime Team, and work within local teams to disrupt the activity of OCGs and tackle levels of serious violent crime
  - working within multi-agency partnerships in support of offender management activity

**Chief Officer Lead:** Deputy Chief Constable Tim Forber

**Report Author:** Keeley Moore (Performance and Governance)

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## PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022

### BUDGET MONITORING REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2022

#### REPORT OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

##### 1. Purpose of the Report

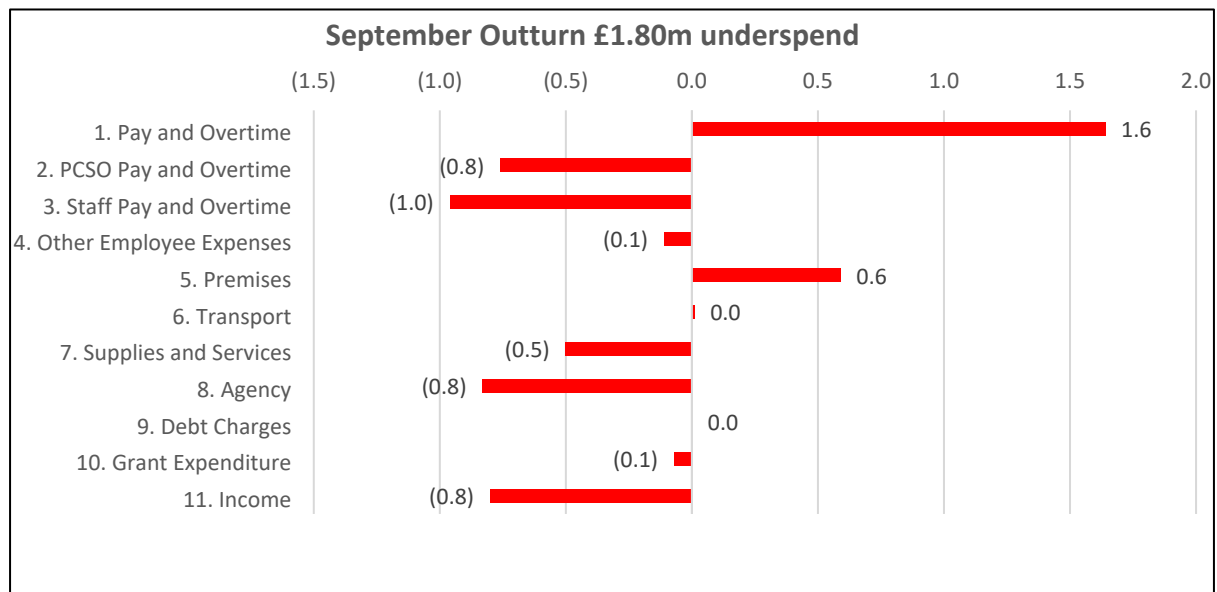
This report is to inform the Public Accountability Board of the Force's projected outturn on its revenue and capital budgets as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. It is based on an analysis of income and expenditure for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 before accounting adjustments. This report covers the Force financial position only and should be read in conjunction with the report by the PCC Chief Finance Officer.

##### 2. Recommendations

The Board is recommended to note the content

##### 3. Background Information

###### OVERVIEW FOR MONTH



##### **3.1 Key points**

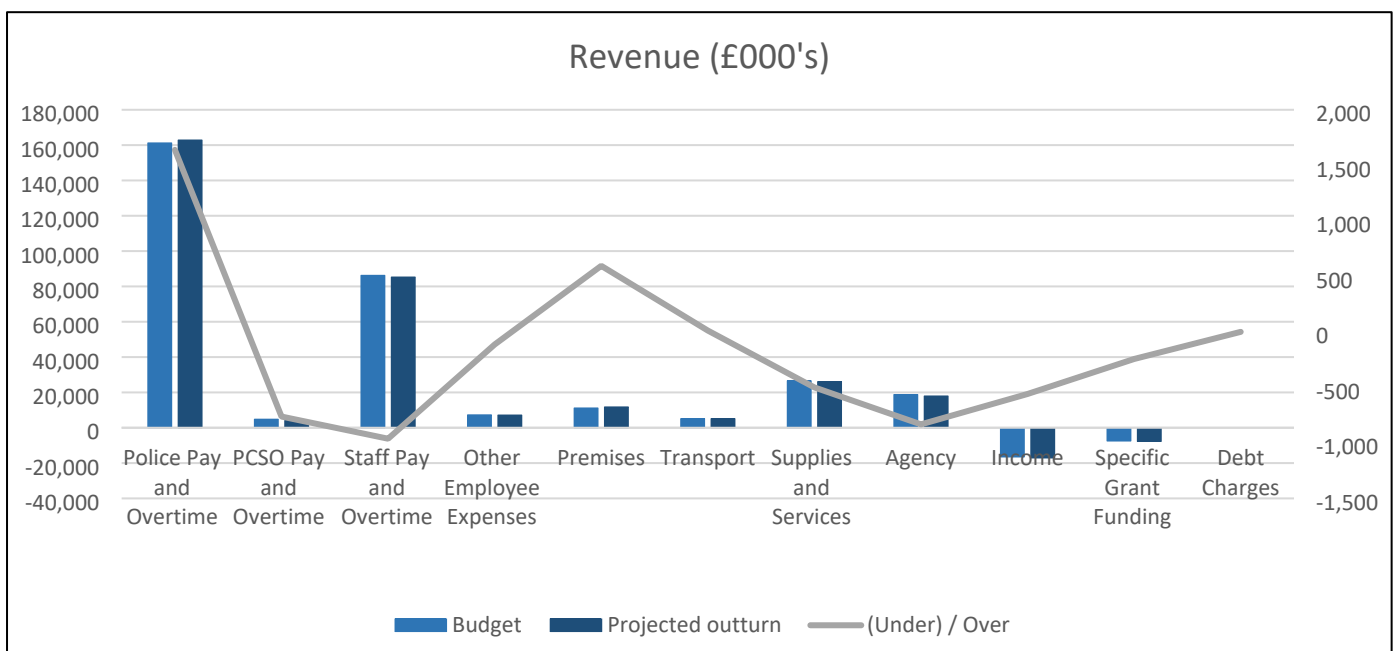
- The £1.80m projected underspend is 0.60% of the total budget before legacy costs.
- In year the force has direct revenue financed £1.80m of Officer Uplift capital costs.
- The projected underspend does not include any adjustments that may be required for the reopened staff pay award or the reversal of the 1.25% National Insurance increase as we have not as yet received any certainty or clarification. For the NI adjustment the additional underspend is expected to be in the region of £0.77m.
- There have been significant changes to the Officer Workforce Plan and staff/PCSO vacancies due to the continuing recruitment challenges:
  - The Officer Workforce Plan has changed significantly since budget setting. The PCC approved changes to the Plan which reduced projected officer strength by 68 resulting in an underspend in Police Pay of £2.58m. The workforce plan is projected

to bring officer numbers back in line in 2023/24. This change has allowed the Force to fund the Detective Now Programme, summer surge activity and additional overtime to backfill the vacancies. This projected underspend in pay is now offset by an overspend in overtime.

- Underspends of £3.19m on staff pay are due to current and expected vacancies within existing and growth roles. This is an area of focus for the Force, linked to the Savings Programme. This underspend is offset by the staff lump sum pension prepayment (£1.2m) which has been consistently charged to the revenue account but this was not included in the budget. In addition there is an overspend on overtime to backfill vacancies and demand.
- Underspends of £0.76m are projected on PCSOs due to vacancies and shift and weekend working changes not yet implemented. Numbers are expected to be brought back in line when the PCSO apprenticeship is introduced early next year.

### 3.2 Revenue Summary

	Approved Budget £000	Projected Outturn £000	(Under) / Overspend £000	% of budget
Police Pay and Overtime	161,247	162,886	1,639	1.02%
PCSO Pay and Overtime	4,852	4,089	(763)	(15.7%)
Staff Pay and Overtime	86,287	85,325	(962)	(1.1%)
Other Employee Expenses	7,314	7,200	(114)	(1.6%)
Premises	11,201	11,796	594	5.3%
Transport	5,165	5,177	12	0.2%
Supplies and Services	26,622	26,122	(500)	(1.9%)
Agency	18,822	17,989	(833)	(4.4%)
Income	(16,502)	(17,112)	(610)	3.7%
Specific Grant Funding	(7,520)	(7,764)	(0.24)	3.24%
Grant Expenditure	2	(67)	(69)	(3937.4%)
<b>Net Expenditure Before Legacy</b>	<b>297,439</b>	<b>295,640</b>	<b>(1,799)</b>	<b>(0.60%)</b>

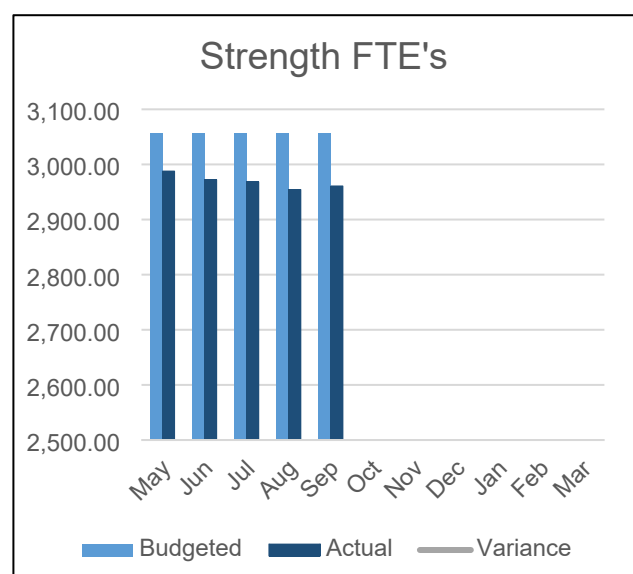
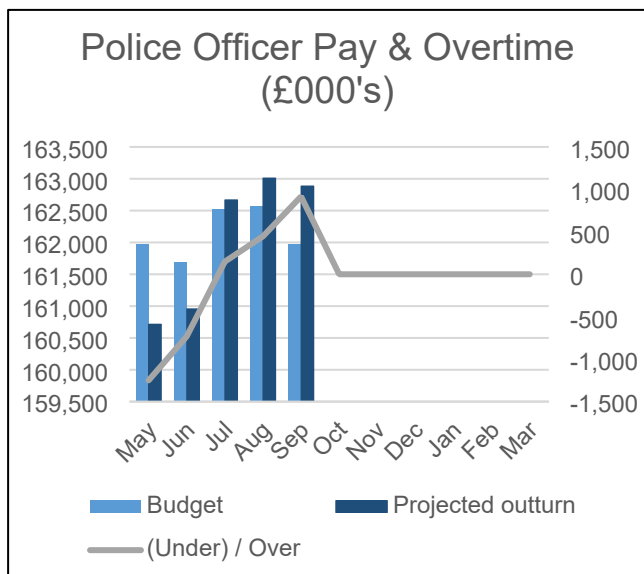


## POLICE OFFICERS PAY & OVERTIME

- Total projected outturn of £1.64m overspend, (£0.08m overspend in pay and £1.56m overspend on overtime).
- Police pay is projecting to overspend by £0.08m, this is mainly due to the Workforce Plan changes. However, this is offset by overspends due to changes in unsocial hours, acting rank costs and an increase in on costs for overtime. It has also been utilised to fund Detective Now and Summer Surge activity.
- The Workforce Plan approved by the OPCC reduced our planned strength from 3,055.91 to 2,987.91, a reduction of 68. This created an underspend of £2.58m. Since then, further changes have been made and September strength is 2,961.

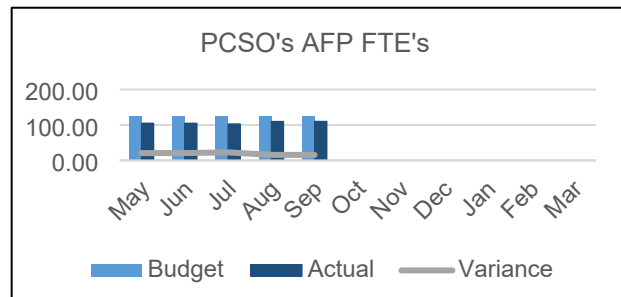
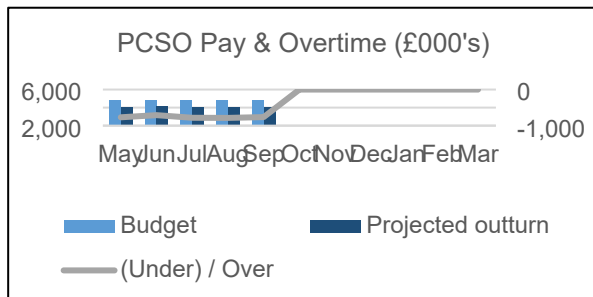
Reason	Value £m
Work Force Plan Changes	(£2.58)
GRIP Funding	(£0.25)
Small Variances across Departments	(£0.02)
Acting Rank increases	£0.10
NI additions due to additional overtime	£0.21
Maternity Pay	£0.22
Allowance & untaken Leave	£0.23
NI Increased projections	£0.37
Police pay underspends funding Detective Now	£0.40
Police pay underspends funding Summer Surge	£0.68
Movement to WFP change relating to ARV Grant	£0.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.08</b>

- GRIP funding of £0.25m, confirmed post budget setting, has funded 5 FTE posts.
- Overtime is projecting to overspend by £1.55m.
- The main areas contributing to the overspend are Districts £0.83m, Sheffield recording £0.43m relating to vacancies within the Reactive, Proactive and Response teams, Crime Services £0.31m relating to Force Crime Bureau and PVP teams and OSU and Force Control Room £0.28m relating to operational requirements.



## PCSO PAY & OVERTIME

- Total projected underspend of £0.76m (£0.78m underspend in pay offset by £0.02m overspend on overtime).
- £0.42m underspend due to the revised student recruitment plan. This is a temporary underspend due to slippage in recruitment as the PCSO apprenticeship is developed. The workforce plan is expected to bring numbers back in line in 2023/24.
- A £0.36m underspend is projected in shift and weekend working allowances due to an expected change that has not yet been implemented. This is being reviewed for a potential saving.
- PCSO FTE's are currently projected to end at 104.4, which is 21.6 under the budget of 126.00.



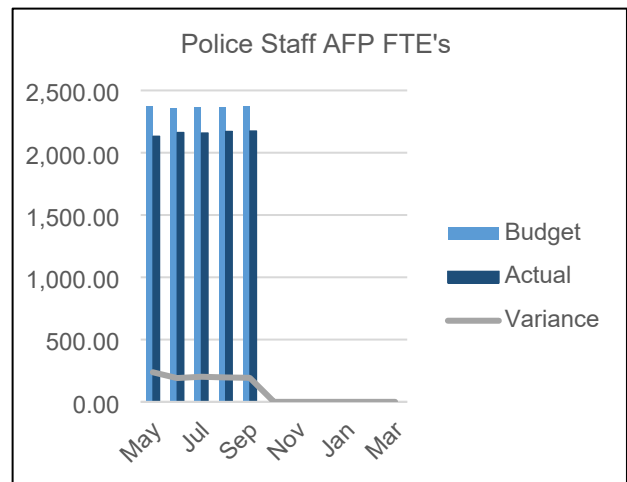
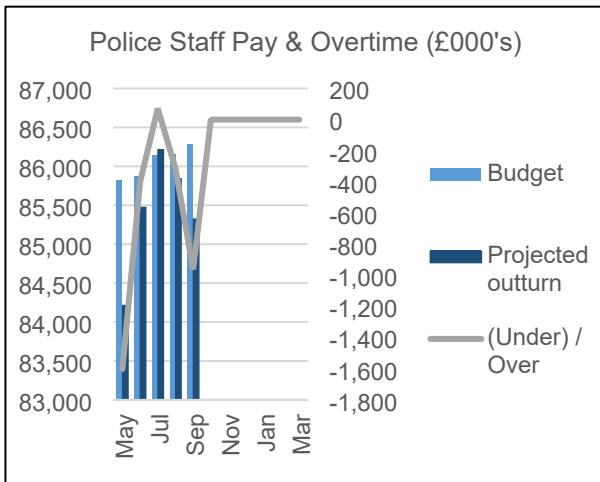
## POLICE STAFF PAY & OVERTIME

- Total projected underspend of £0.96m (£1.96m underspend in pay offset by £1.00m overspend on overtime).
- The staff pay projected underspend is £3.19m (see below), partially offset by the payment of the staff pension lump sum of £1.23m which was unbudgeted.

District/Department	Value £m
Force wide growth - IT target operating model £0.65m, Comms Data Review £0.31m and release of revised growth not required £0.30m	(£1.26)
Crime Services – DFU, PVP and Intel	(£0.64)
Business Change & Innovation – Tech Enabled Team vacancies	(£0.37)
IT	(£0.26)
Sheffield – 6 x IO's delayed recruitment	(£0.18)
Regional Lead – Stores & Procurement	(£0.15)
FCR – Changes in WFP	(£0.14)
Doncaster, additional leavers	(£0.12)
CJU – vacancies across the department	(£0.04)
Corporate Finance	(£0.04)
Small variances across the Force	£0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>(£3.19)</b>

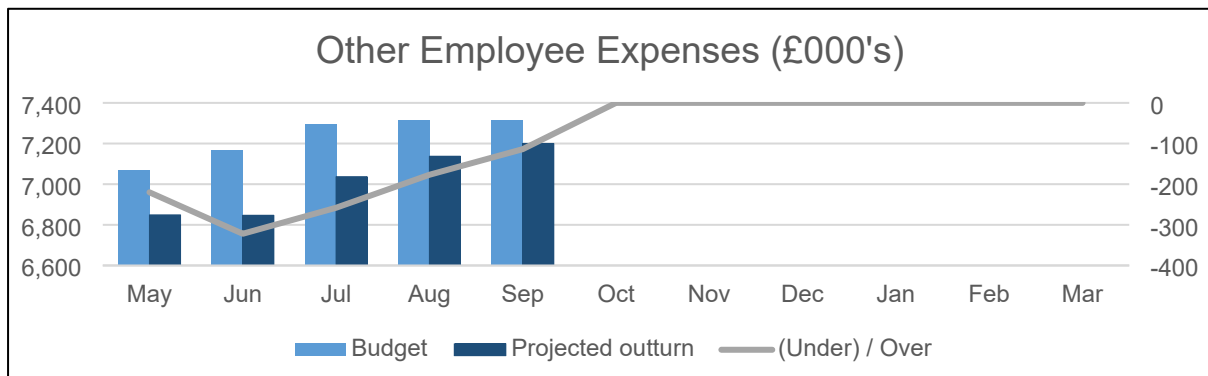
- The more significant areas are: Crime Services, which includes underspends relating to the DFU review, delays in the recruitment of IO's, PVP and FCB due to vacancies currently being offset by overtime costs, PNC and Intel. Projected underspends on BC&I relate to the Tech Enabled team and IT is due to the unapproved target operating model as the service is under review.
- Overtime is projected to overspend by £1.00m. The main variances are within Crime Services £0.28m FCR £0.27m and CJU £0.10m.
- Staff AFP strength is 2,175.52 which is below budget by 192.94, however there are 192.70 externally, income and temporary funded posts bringing us to 0.24 below budget in line with the workforce plan. This doesn't however include the growth posts that have not as yet been created.





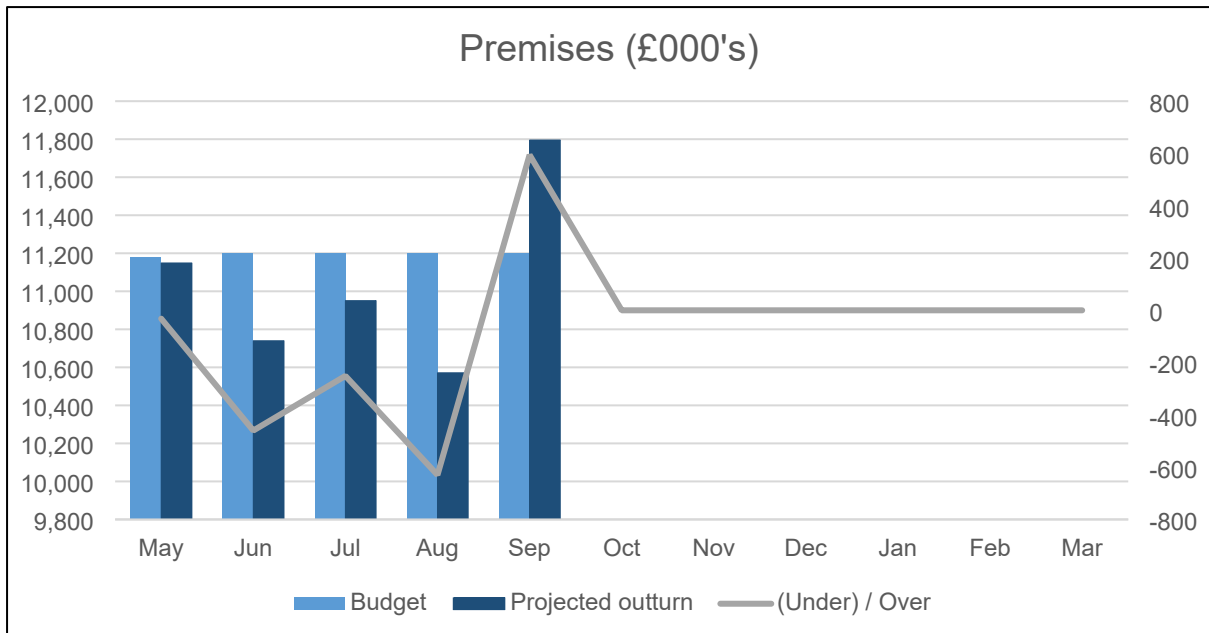
### OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES

- Total projected underspend of £0.11m.
- £0.37m underspend on ill health retirements due to fewer retirees than expected (4 v 9), this was captured as a saving in June.
- £0.10m overspend on general recruitment costs including medical and external training costs for Internet Sexual Offences Team (ISOT) training carried forward from 21/22.
- £0.07m overspend on the apprenticeship levy to reflect historic trends, this has been reviewed for the 23/24 budget setting process.



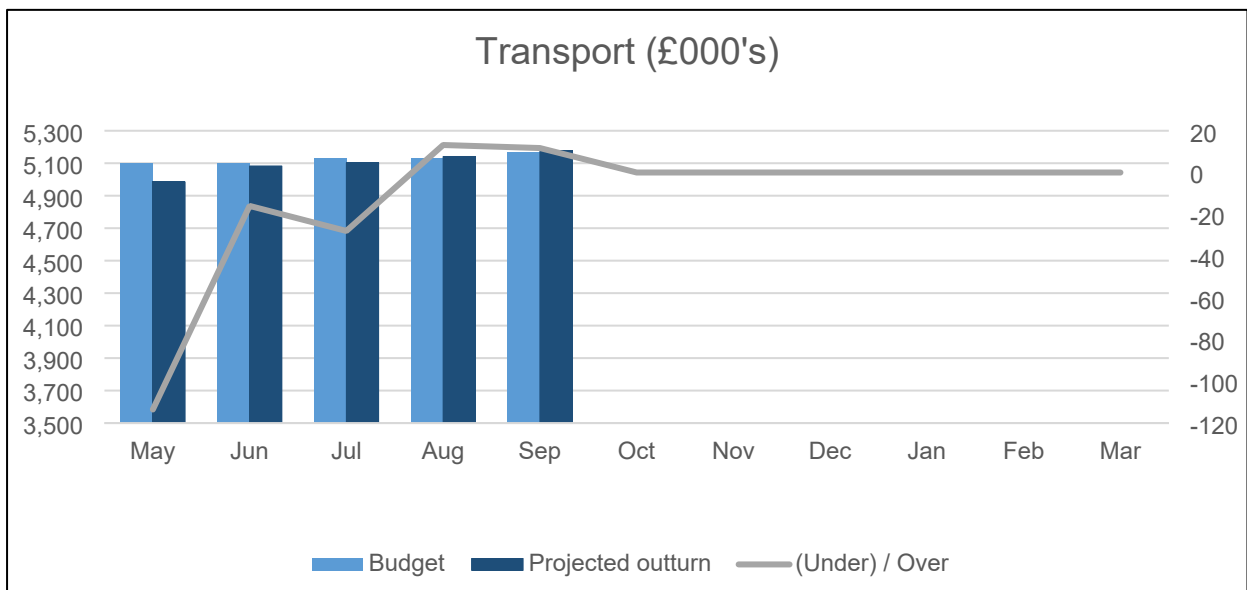
### PREMISES

- Total projected overspend of £0.59m.
- £1.14m projected overspend based on the latest information provided by the energy team.
- £0.18m overspend due to projections in relation to accommodation for ISOT growth.
- £0.12m overspend due to unachieved savings for rent due to the purchase of Pioneer Close now not expected to happen.
- £0.50m underspend due to rates rebates spanning back to 2017.
- £0.35m underspend due to revised projections relating to Uplift.



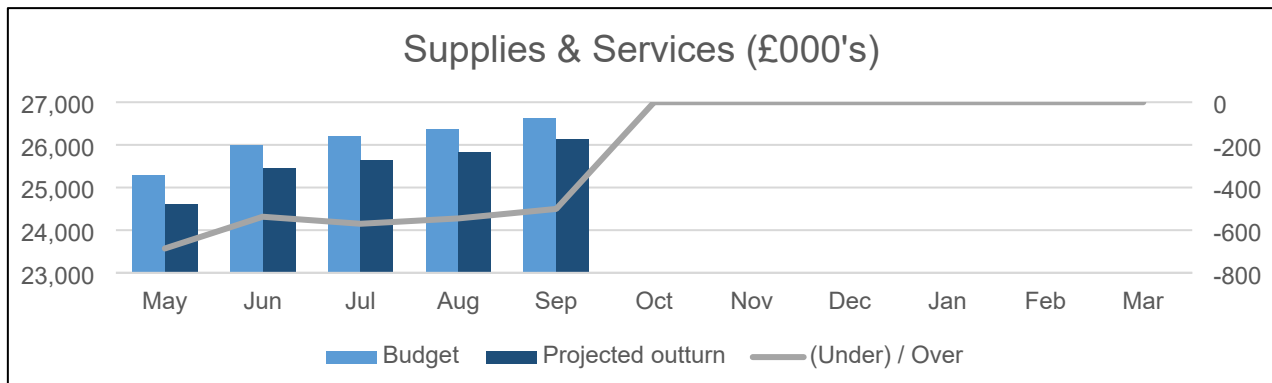
## TRANSPORT

- Total projected overspend of £0.01m.
- £0.08m projected underspend on casual users mileage based on historic trend and a reduction of travel. This will be reviewed as the year progresses in line with the Smarter Ways of Working programme.
- £0.04m projected underspend on vehicle running costs.
- £0.12m overspend on fuel due to the increase in prices.
- £0.03m overspend on hire of cars due to additional costs from summer surge.



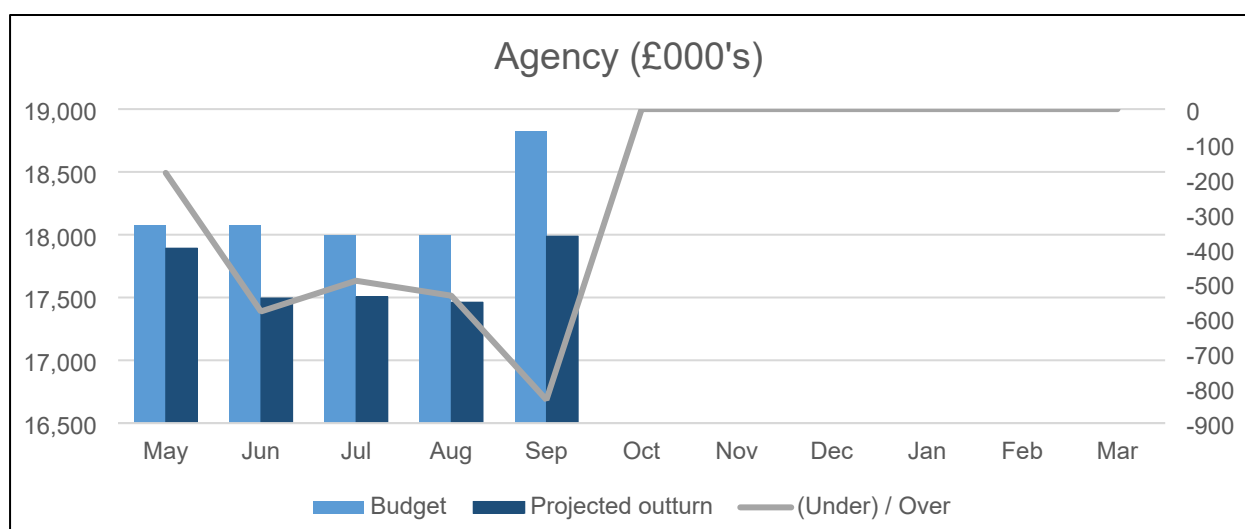
## SUPPLIES & SERVICES

- Total projected underspend of £0.50m.
- £0.53m projected underspend due to a Microsoft Enterprise Agreement contract discount received.
- £0.22m projected underspend on staff clothing and uniforms in line with current spending.
- £0.16m projected overspend on hardware & software purchases, an increase of £0.05m due to DAMS project requirements.
- £0.08m overspend on counsel fees and compensation within Legal, this is an agreed carry forward from 21/22.



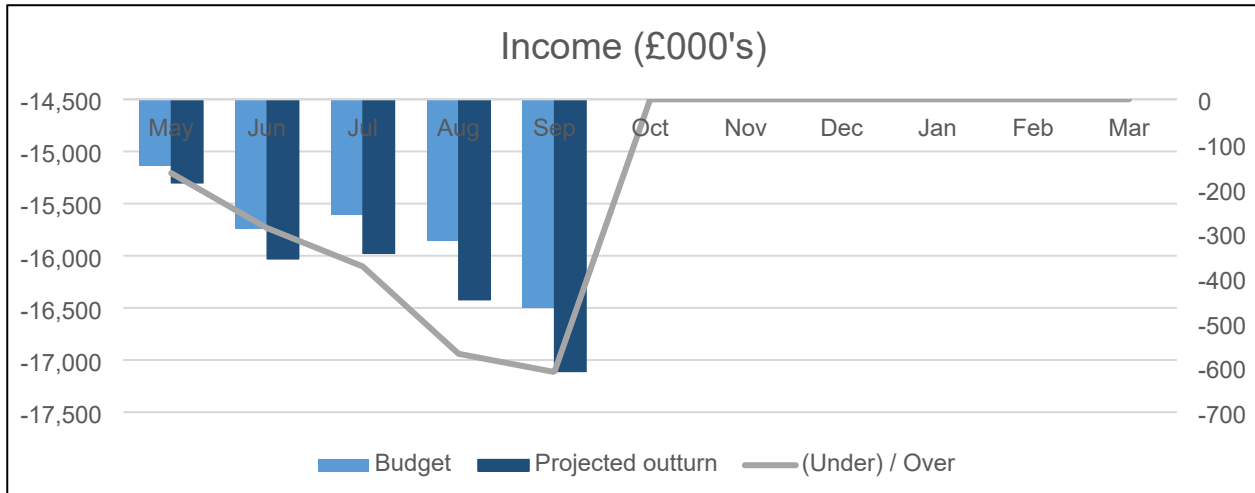
## AGENCY

- Total projected underspend of £0.83m.
- £0.32m underspend on Insurance due to premiums renewing at a lower level that anticipated.
- £0.22m underspend on recharges from WYP due to the penalty for the 6 FTE's within ROCU now not expected and changes in other posts.
- £0.21m underspend on External Forensics now reflecting current trends.
- £0.13m underspend on NPAS. At the time of budget setting, there were various options and the budget was set at the highest contribution value. The contribution amount has now been agreed and is lower than the budget.
- £0.11m underspend in Home Office ICT costs, this underspend relates to recharges not received for ICT Subs & Cloud Gateway.
- £0.17m overspend on Mutual Aid to cover football fixtures.



## INCOME

- Total projected over achievement of £0.61m.
- £0.39m over recovery from mutual aid offset by additional costs.
- £0.18m over recovery in POCA income.
- £0.12m over recovery from Highways Agency.



## SPECIFIC GRANT FUNDING

- £0.24m over achievement on Home Office funding for the agreed Police Pay increase.

## LEGACY

- Hillsborough, the Stovewood Enquiry and CSE civil claims are projecting full year outturn of £5.41m, which is on budget.
- This reflects information received from the oPCC.

## 3.3 MTRS Savings

- The 2022/23 savings are £1.76m of which £1.30m has been achieved and captured on the savings plan. There is £0.46m remaining for the 2023/24 full year effect to achieve.
- Further savings have been identified in year and total £1.56m, bring our achieved savings to £2.86m, an overachievement of £1.10m in year. The combined full year effect including these additional savings is £0.55m recurrently.
- The savings that have not as yet been achieved relate to CJU File Build (£0.34m) and Rent & Service charge savings from purchase of Pioneer Close (£0.12m).
- Work is continuing to identify the £7m target set by the PCC and the overachieved savings will contribute to this.

### 3.4 GROWTH

- The total amount approved for growth in 2022/23 was £13.42m, this is split between MTRS growth of £4.00m, Business Plan growth of £3.31m and Prior Year Growth of £6.12m. Further growth has been approved post budget setting of £2.79m, of which £1.52m is non-recurrent and funded from in year underspends/new savings identified.
- Full Year outturn, including additional supported growth, post budget setting, is projected to be £12.23m, an underspend of £2.20m. YTD spend as of the end of September is £3.14m which is 23% of the total programme value.
- The largest projected underspends are within Crime Services for Comms Data Review £0.31m and within IT for the target operating model £0.65m.
- Growth challenge meetings are currently being carried out by the Director of Resources and Chief Finance Officer to review progress with budget holders.

### 3.5 UPLIFT SPEND

- Budgeted staff and non-pay costs for 2022/23 are £2.73m.
- Projected outturn for 2022/23 is £2.58m causing an underspend of £0.15m due to reduced projections across the majority of the areas.

### 3.6 CAPITAL

- The PCC has approved a revised 2022/23 capital programme of £16.48m (£24.62m reduced by £8.24m to reflect past trends in spending).
- Year to Date expenditure against this programme is £4.21m, this reflects 26% of the full year budget.
- The Accountancy team are working closely with the Project Managers to improve the accuracy of projections and have provided training to the majority. The most recent training session was 20th July 2022.
- The significant projects which have slipped to future years are:

Capital Project	Comment	£
Doncaster Police Station & Custody Suite	Moved to 2023/24	£1,576,991
Oracle – MTD & EBS	Original project ceased. Remaining budget required to fund the new project	£566,434
Compartmentation Survey & Remedial Works	Project is underway due to complete in 23/24	£539,536
Body Armour	With BLC, supplier will be picked in Jan so order placed in Mar 23.	£400,000
ESN (Gwent Model)	Project not started	£300,000
Data Migration	CSB is approved, but not started	£224,265
22/23 Joint Data Centre	Project is currently being scoped	£204,505
Corporate WiFi	Project is underway	£181,762
Replacement of AFO/ARVO Body Armour	With BLC, supplier will be picked in Jan so order placed in Mar 23.	£120,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>£4,113,493</b>

- The significant projects which have underspends during the year are:

Capital Project	Comment	£
Smart Contact Implementation Team 2021	This is a combined underspend on projects T15090, T15700, T15270 & T15890.	£227,870

- The significant projects which have overspends during the year are:

Capital Project	Comment	£
Windows 10 Implementation	Project is underway and due to complete in Mar-23	£65,640

- The capital tracker is presented at Strategic Resourcing Board for monitoring in detail. This shows progress against each scheme and overall force position.
- There are currently 48 projects awaiting capital scheme briefs with a total value of £977,418.

### 3.7 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

- The original Capital Programme for 2022/2027 was approved in February 2022.
- This programme was revised and approved on 8th July 2022.
- This reflects the £16.48m approved for 2022/23 and the requirements going forward.

### 3.8 EXTERNAL FUNDING

- Total approved is £6.92m revenue and is projected to spend £6.26m with a variance of £0.65m.
- Funding for the Beat Team at Barnsley will end in March 2023.
- Grants above £0.10m and have a date up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 are as follows:

District/Dept	Grant Project	£	Staff
Forcewide	Uplift programme	£3,404,434	151 x officers
OSU	ARV Uplift	£723,312	12 x officers
PAG	Disclosure & Barring	£677,076	22 x staff
Sheffield	Meadowhall	£312,895	n/a
Barnsley	Town Centre	£264,000	5 x officers
Barnsley	Beat Team	£232,567	5 x officers
Crime Services	Cyber Crime	£165,546	4 x officers (50/50 basis)
Sheffield	DAAT	£120,002	1 x officer / 2 staff
Sheffield	University of Sheffield	£120,000	1 x PC & 2 x PCSO
Crime Services	NLEDS	£117,057	n/a
Rotherham	Child Matters 2	£100,000	n/a
<b>Total</b>		<b>£6,236,889</b>	

**Officer Responsible:** Debbie Carrington, Chief Finance Officer

**Contact Officer:** Sheryl Hawley, Chief Accountant

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**7 NOVEMBER 2022**

## **REPORT BY THE PCC'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND SOLICITOR**

### **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER DECISIONS**

#### **1 Report Objectives**

- 1.1 This Report is to provide the Public Accountability Board (PAB) with a record of key decisions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) outside of this Board since the last PAB meeting.

#### **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report and to comment upon any issues arising.

#### **3 Background**

- 3.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the functions and responsibilities of the PCC.
- 3.2 The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011 sets out the requirements of the PCC to publish information about decision-making.
- 3.3 The PCC has a Framework for decision-making by both the PCC and those exercising delegated authority on behalf of the PCC. It details the arrangements put in place to enable the PCC to make robust, well-informed and transparent decisions, and hold the Chief Constable to account.
- 3.4 Decisions taken by the PCC will primarily arise from discharging his statutory functions and are likely to include, but not be limited to, the following areas:
- Collaboration/partnerships
  - Strategic Direction
  - Governance, including policy
  - Budget setting
  - Commissioning
  - Capital programme spend
  - Asset requisition/disposal

#### **4 DECISIONS**

- 4.1 The PCC has made 35 decisions in 2022/23.

4.2 For the period 25 September 2022 (the date of the last report) to 25 October 2022 the PCC has made the following decisions to draw to the attention of the Public Accountability Board.

#### 4.2.1 Special Services Charging Rates

The PCC approved the new Special Services Charging rates calculated using the revised 'National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) guidelines on Charging for Police Services'.

#### 4.2.2 Extension of SYP's Insurance Contracts

The PCC approved the extension of SYP's current insurance contracts for an additional two years.

#### 4.2.3 PCC / Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) Office Refurbishment

The approved the plans and £76,000 cost associated with refurbishment of the main OPCC office area to facilitate hybrid working (in conjunction with the Estates Strategy and SYP Smarter Ways of Working Project) and to reconfigure the PCC's office to improve security.

#### 4.2.4 Airwave Device Replacement

The PCC approved the reprofiling of the 2023/24 Airwave budget by releasing the funds into the 2022/23 programme to secure a £432,000 saving through an early purchase opportunity.

#### 4.2.5 Changes to the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) Community Grant Scheme for 2022/23

The PCC approved the following changes to his Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) Community Grant Scheme for 2022/23:

- Increase the grant maximum value from up to £7,500 to up to £10,000
- Reduce the number of funding panels per annum from 4 (3 usually take place due to the annual Violence Reduction Fund) to 3 with more intensive promotional activity
- Improve/enhance the due diligence process to include applicant confirmation of safeguarding policy – policy checks will be completed checked via SYP PVP (Protecting Vulnerable People) governance and applicant confirmation of adequate insurances in place. Continued checks will be made with SYP and local community safety leads in the relevant local authority
- Changes to the application process including re-developed and improved guidance notes and FAQs, changes to the application form and assessment process

It is anticipated that the changes will result in the following outcomes:

- the scheme attracting more applications from a wider pool of applicants
- funding can be allocated more evenly across the county with historical funding imbalances reduced as far as possible
- an improved application process which supports applicants with clear guidance and information on how to apply and manage an award if successful
- a revised payment structure that is supportive and responsive to the financial constraints of third sector organisations



4.3 A log of PCC decisions can be found on the PCC's website at <https://southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/openness/publications/?search=&publication-type=decision-record&start-date=&end-date>. There are a number of PCC decisions which we are unable to publish for reasons such as, being commercially sensitive, operationally sensitive or, they involve ongoing criminal proceedings (this is not an exhaustive list).

**Report Author:** Sally Parkin  
**Designation:** Governance and Compliance Manager, OPCC  
**Contact:** [sparkin@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:sparkin@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk)

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**PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD (PAB)**

**ROLLING 3 MONTH - WORK PROGRAMME**

**DECEMBER 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023**

**MEETING DATE: 12 DECEMBER 2022 AT 1400 HOURS – BARNSELEY**

	<b>OPCC</b>	<b>SYP</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
<b>Force Performance Reporting – (District Report to be First on Agenda)</b>			
<b>Force Performance – Barnsley District Summary Update</b>		✓	Provide the PCC with an update on Barnsley District’s performance against Police and Crime Plan priorities.
<b>Force Performance Against the Police and Crime Plan (2021 - 2024) – Treating People Fairly</b>		✓	Provide update to PCC re Force progress towards the priority Protecting Vulnerable People in the Police and Crime Plan.
<b>Chief Executive Reporting</b>			
<b>Budget Setting update including Chancellor’s announcement and Launch of Precept Consultation</b>	✓		Provide an update on the budget including Chancellor’s announcement and consultation undertaken so far to gauge public appetite for the setting of the precept for 2023/24 and to advise of the detailed consultation to take place once the spending assessment has been announced.
<b>PCC Decisions</b>	✓		To seek PCC approval / agreement to proposals as requested (to be notified 10 working days before date of meeting)
<b>Assurance Panel Reporting</b>			
<b>JIAC Assurance Report</b>	✓		Provide an overview of the Committees areas of exception reporting for PCC’s information / action

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD (PAB)**

**ROLLING 3 MONTH - WORK PROGRAMME**

**DECEMBER 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023**

**MEETING DATE: 9 JANUARY 2023 AT 1400 – SHEFFIELD**

	OPCC	SYP	Purpose
<b>Force Performance Reporting – (District Report to be First on Agenda)</b>			
<b>Force Performance – Sheffield District Summary Update</b>		✓	Provide the PCC with an update on Sheffield District's performance against Police and Crime Plan priorities.
<b>Force Performance Against the Police and Crime Plan (2021 - 2024) – Tacking Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour</b>		✓	Provide an update to PCC re Force progress towards the priority Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in the Police and Crime Plan.
<b>Chief Executive Reporting</b>			
<b>PCC Decisions</b>	✓		To seek PCC approval / agreement to proposals as requested (to be notified 10 working days before date of meeting)
<b>Strategic Planning and Budget Setting Update</b>	✓		Provide an update on the progress made in relation PCC's Strategic Planning and Budget Setting
<b>Assurance Panel Reporting</b>			
<b>JIAC Assurance Report</b>			Provide an overview of the Committees areas of exception reporting for PCC's information / action
<b>IEP Assurance Report</b>		✓	Provide overview of the Panels areas of exception reporting for PCC's information / action, include the themes from IEP work programme eg, Hate Crime, Complaints and Digital Policing.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD (PAB)**

**ROLLING 3 MONTH - WORK PROGRAMME**

**DECEMBER 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023**

**MEETING DATE: 2 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 1400 HOURS - **DONCASTER****

	OPCC	SYP	Purpose
<b>Force Performance Reporting – (District Report to be First on Agenda)</b>			
<b>Force Performance – Doncaster District Summary Update</b>		✓	Provide the PCC with an update on Doncaster District’s performance against Police and Crime Plan priorities.
<b>Force Performance Against the Police and Crime Plan (2021 - 2024) – Protecting Vulnerable People</b>		✓	Provide update to PCC re Force progress towards the priority Protecting Vulnerable People in the Police and Crime Plan.
<b>Stalking Protection Orders</b>			<b>Action 406 from PAB on 9/2/21</b> - A report on Stalking Protection Orders be brought to a Public Accountability Board in 12 months’ time.
<b>SYP’s Quarterly Budget Monitoring Overview</b>		✓	SYPs financial position for (1 October to 31 December) Q3 2021/2022
<b>Sustainability Update (Deferred to April)</b>		✓	Requested by Danielle Taylor
<b>Chief Executive Reporting</b>			
<b>Strategic Planning and Budget Setting</b>	✓		Provide an update on the progress made in relation PCC’s Strategic Planning and Budget Setting
<b>PCC Decisions</b>	✓		To seek PCC approval / agreement to proposals as requested (to be notified 10 working days before date of meeting)

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD (PAB)**

**ROLLING 3 MONTH - WORK PROGRAMME**

**DECEMBER 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023**

**SPECIAL MEETING DATE: 27 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 1300 HOURS**

	<b>OPCC</b>	<b>SYP</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Final precept recommendations and budget 2022/2023.			PCC to formally agree the budget and council tax precept.

WORKING DRAFT



## Independent Ethics Panel – Juveniles and the use of Strip Search powers

Assurance Report	Report Author
<b>Independent Ethics Panel</b>	Interim Chair
	Date of the Report
	17 October 2022

<b>Urgent:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Security Classification</b>	<b>Official</b>

### Exceptions

The Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) assists the Commissioner in understanding the progress being made in delivering the 'Fair Treatment' strategic priority of his Police and Crime Plan and in providing assurance in relation to PCC and Chief Constable statutory responsibilities.

- 1.1 The IEP received a report from South Yorkshire Police on Juveniles and the use of Strip Search at its meeting on 7 October 2022.
- 1.2 The report followed a request to SYP from the Chair of IEP in the wake of reports which attracted widespread negative commentary about the "Child Q" case, a girl who had been strip searched in her school in London. The request was for information about the use of this particular power in relation to juveniles in South Yorkshire in the 12 months to June 2022. The report is as follows:
  - 1) IEP received information about local practice concerning juveniles who were stopped and searched and subjected to a Strip Search within weeks of the request being made
  - 2) Stop and Search took place on about 12,418 occasions in the period under review. IEP notes FOUR instances when a Stop and Search led to a Strip Search being conducted on juveniles in this period
  - 3) IEP welcomed the suggestion by DCC Forber that SYP report to IEP twice a year about the use of this power

## Independent Ethics Panel – Juveniles and the use of Strip Search powers

- 4) IEP also welcomed the one page briefing document provided by CI Gilmour to secondary schools in Sheffield. This explains Stop and Search in accessible language. IEP has requested that the document be sent to all schools and post-16 institutions across South Yorkshire
- 5) IEP is seeking re-assurance that when strip searches are conducted – in custody or elsewhere - an appropriate adult is present and that this is logged
- 6) IEP notes that there are rare and exceptional circumstances that it may not be possible to wait for the presence of an appropriate adult
- 7) IEP notes that further detail arising from its request is being pursued and that this will be the subject of an update to IEP and a subsequent report to PAB
- 8) IEP is in a position to offer re-assurance to the Police and Crime Commissioner that it has found that Strip Search in relation to juveniles is used sparingly. There is no indication that its use is unnecessary, unlawful or disproportionate
- 9) IEP appreciates the promptness with which SYP has responded and its readiness to engage fully with the issue. It also appreciates the active support of staff from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

### Recommendations

The Commissioner is recommended to consider the contents of the report and comment on any matters arising.

### Report author details

Michael Lewis, Interim Chair

Contact details: OPCC, 0114 2964150

**Signed:**

**M Lewis**

**Date:**

17 October 2022