|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measure: Reduce Murder and other homicide** | |
| **Home Office crime codes and description:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | ***0010*** | ***Murder*** | | ***0041*** | ***Manslaughter*** | | ***0042*** | ***Infanticide*** | | ***00410*** | ***Corporate Manslaughter*** | | |
| Recorded crime levels | The monthly volume of homicides from April 2018 to March 2022 is shown below, with a peak of 5 homicides recorded in May 2018 (highlighted in red).    The volume of Homicides in South Yorkshire has increased since 2019/20, albeit a reduction on volumes in 2018/19. In 2021/22, 19 homicides were recorded in South Yorkshire, with a rate of 13.5 homicides per 1000 population, above that of the national average.  Whilst this is the total number of homicides initially recorded, there will be an expected number which following post-mortem, associated tests and other enquiries, will not meet the categorisation for homicide. This is overseen by the Senior Investigating Officer for the case. As this can take time to conclude, caution is advised in any review of homicide volumes from recent months.  The majority of the homicides within South Yorkshire have a flag applied linking them to drugs. The proportion of domestic homicides remains comparatively low. |
| Force response to homicides | The force’s Major Crime Unit deals with all homicide offences. Resourcing is prioritised for homicides. Investigations can be lengthy and involve the support of many officers and staff across the force. Homicide offences are often linked to either Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) activity or domestic-related offending; these areas constitute the focus of our homicide prevention activity.  **OCG links -** Information on the work being undertaken to address armed criminality and OCG delivery (which links to the homicide volumes) is reported under ***Reduce Serious Violence***.  **Domestic homicides** - The force Serious Case Review team identify cases fitting the criteria for a Domestic Homicide Review, bringing them to the attention of the Local Authority. A report covering police activity is circulated, ensuring learning is disseminated to staff, supporting future prevention.  With a positive action approach to Domestic Abuse (DA), the force arrest rate remains high nationally. Training (DA Matters) was provided to over 1600 front line officers/staff in 2020/21 - it included a focus on the importance of risk assessment, and identification of additional vulnerability, supporting intervention. The force Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment team review all DA incidents, providing a specialist secondary risk assessment, researching to identify any high-risk behaviours such as coercive control, stalking/harassment or recent separation, which are sometimes seen as precursors to DA homicides.  High-risk domestic incidents are referred to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which delivers information-sharing, safety planning for victims and their children, and manages behaviour of perpetrators. The force-wide Multi Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) meeting focusses on repeat perpetrator behaviour through engagement or enforcement.  Prevention solutions are available to protect DA victims including Tecso phones, SmartWater forensic marking, and Buddi Tags, which can be monitored via GPS. Civil Orders such as Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) and Stalking Protection Orders are used to good effect to protect victims, supported by a dedicated DVPO team. District-based DA teams provide consistency of quality investigations for all high-risk DA crimes. |
| **Ongoing focus – March 2023:**  Supt Dave Cowley (Domestic Abuse, Serious Violent Crime) | |
| The force Homicide and Near Miss Homicide Strategic Profile has been published as per the National Police Chief Council’s (NPCC) template requirements in January 2023.  At the end of January, His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICRS) conducted a Thematic Inspection in relation to Homicide Prevention. The force took this opportunity to showcase the work of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), Grip teams, Major Crime Unit (MCU), Armed Crime Team (ACT) and Op Train Kilo and Train Alpha. The force has also produced a Homicide Prevention and ‘near miss’ problem profile which will form the basis of future work and has been sent to the College of Policing who are producing a national problem profile.  Further national developments are anticipated and the NPCC, Home Office, College of Policing and HMICFRS are working together to produce National guidance on Homicide Prevention.  The Major Crime Unit are working on plans to introduce a quick time debrief process for homicides and near miss incidents in line with a model developed by Essex Police. This is not intended to replace statutory reviews such as Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) but will be a process that will quickly identify learning and opportunities to prevent homicides and near misses in the future.  The force is working on launching an internal medial campaign highlighting homicide and serious violent crime prevention and explaining to officers and staff how they can contribute to this work. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measure: Reduce Serious Violence** | |
| * **NHS hospital admissions data for under 25 year olds for assault with a sharp object; and** * **Police recorded crime data on offences involving the discharge of a lethal barrelled firearm** | |
| Recorded levels | Reductions have been seen in the last 2 years for Under 25 year old admissions to hospitals for assault with sharp object, aligned with a national reduction, although some increases are being seen in recent months. Data is available for forces to review local datasets internally.  Firearm discharges have reduced force-wide since Jan 2020. Jan – Dec 2021 recorded 27 per cent reduction in firearms offences compared to the same period in 2020.  Internally, Knife Crime and Most Serious Violence (MSV) datasets are also reviewed to support understanding and focus activity. The force is working with the National Data Quality Improvement Service to support the data capture against the Home Office (HO) definition of knife crime. |
| Force response to reducing serious violence | The force created the Armed Crime Team (ACT) in 2020/21, successfully working to reduce the volumes of firearms discharges since inception. Clear interdependencies exist with the following:   * GRIP funding (intelligence-led local visible policing, focused by hot spot analysis) * Problem-Solving Hub (problem-solving partnership plans, with funding to support activity) * Violence Reduction Unit (using a public health approach to violence reduction and prevention)   The Serious Violent Crime Tasking Team undertake a range of targeted activities to disrupt violent criminality and reduce knife-crime offending. Local policing teams and specialist teams such as licensing also operate in response to violent offences, and proactively work to reduce night-time economy offending. Profiles have been delivered to understand the impact of Covid on demand and resourcing needs and profiles delivering against thematic areas are delivered throughout the year. Taking learning from analytical products, the GRIP team work alongside neighbourhood policing teams to ensure problem-solving plans are targeted and effective.  The [National Problem Solving and Crime Prevention Programme](https://www.southyorks.police.uk/find-out/problem-solving-and-crime-prevention-programme/) is based in South Yorkshire Police, with a focus of events around tackling serious violence, supporting a national repository, in which the force engages fully to learn from this beneficial insight.  OCG threats are locally managed and centrally coordinated under the banner of Fortify. OCG disruption activity relies on a strong understanding of threats, and the force has undertaken mapping to establish the level of firearms capabilities across the OCGs residing in South Yorkshire. |
| **Ongoing focus – March 2023:**  (Armed Criminality), D/Supt Dave Cowley (Serious Violent Crime) | |
| The Grip team funding application has just been finalised for the £1.091M from the Home Office to continue with the problem solving and hot spot patrolling work. South Yorkshire Police are one of 20 forces eligible for this money and have been working with the Home Office and Cambridge Centre for Evidence Based Policing on an evaluation based on a County Wide Randomised Control trial. Feedback from analysis suggests that this tactic is working to prevent violent crime in public places, and the force will be working to further refine the tactic in the next financial year.  The Grip team have been working with neighbourhood policing teams to carry out problem-solving work in Night Time Economy (NTE) areas. The NTEs account for around 75 per cent of the force’s Most Serious Violence hot spots and successes have included the closure of Carver Street in Sheffield on Friday and Saturday nights, and ongoing work with clubs and pubs that have been the focus of serious violence incidents.  The quarterly Homicide Prevention Board is chaired by Assistant Chief Constable Poolman. The board reviews activity across the force and ensures activity is properly resourced and coordinated to deliver the work outlined in the force Homicide Prevention Strategy.  This feeds into the executive board chaired by the PCC and incorporates the Serious Violence Duty.  The force Annual Firearms Profile was published December 2022, which enables the force to focus on the key areas for operational and tactical response.  Trends and analysis around armed criminality, serious violence, and Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) are covered in monthly tactical reporting for each District, with an overarching picture within a force level report. These areas are also captured in regular reporting for local/regional governance groups.  The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) are finalising their plans for 2023/24. This will include continued development of the Hospital Navigators, Plan B custody navigators, Trauma Informed training, Domestic Abuse Problem solving Pilot and various grant rounds focussed on VAWG and youth violence diversion projects. The VRU is also working with statutory partners and local authority Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) to develop and deliver the requirements of the Serious Violence Duty that was introduced in January 2023. It is anticipated that this will be an evolution and refinement of existing VRU and CSP structures. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measure: Disrupt drugs supply and county lines** | |
| * **Homicide in England and Wales (ONS) data on drug related homicides.** * **Substance misuse treatment for adults (PHE) data on new presentations to treatment by referral type.** | |
| Recorded crime levels | ONS dataset shows the proportion of homicide victims and suspects that were under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the homicide. The force submits all homicide reports to the Home Office, and the reports include notification of those identified to be drug related. This is captured by the officer in the case with the information known at the point of submission. The majority of the homicides within South Yorkshire have a flag applied linking them to drugs – drug related homicides accounting for 59% of the homicides in the county in 2021, a higher proportion than seen nationally.  Substance misuse treatment for adults is not held by police forces. |
| Force response to disrupt drugs supply and county lines | The force focus continues in the disruption of drugs supply and county lines. The force worked to significantly increase drug expert witness capability, providing greater support to drug-related prosecutions, and assisting the process through the criminal justice system. Operational activity links to the work of the Armed Crime Team and district Fortify Teams with a high proportion of mapped OCGs primarily linked to drugs. Disruptions of the OCG networks linked to drugs supply and county lines are monitored (*Reduce Serious Violence section*).  The Force employs a SOC Co-ordinator who attends the monthly regional SOC Co-ordinator’s forum – this is chaired by a Home Office representative and regional county lines leads, facilitating wide sharing of intelligence, emerging threats, and notable practice.  A key challenge in tackling the criminality associated with County Lines activity (often linked to drugs), is understanding the nature and scale of activity. As a result, the force works with partners to raise awareness across the communities; proactively engage with young people who may be vulnerable for targeting by offenders; supporting those who have been victims of exploitation; and investigating and charging offenders with their criminal acts.  A quarterly countywide Child Exploitation Group (incorporating County Lines activity) continues to evolve to improve partnership working and information sharing, along with highlighting best practice and addressing any operational issues. The National Police Chief’s Council Vulnerability Tracker is fully embedded across the force and utilised within MACE (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation) meetings. This supports the identification of victims for both CSE and CCE, providing a risk score and profile. District PVP teams locally conduct regular MACE meetings, and all Districts have either have a dedicated child exploitation team based within a multi-agency setting or dedicated local lead who works closely with partnership counterparts.  In addition to submitting safeguarding referrals, partners also play a key role in prevention work, for example through drug awareness education or through deferring children from youth violence. The work of the Violence Reduction Unit supports the delivery of some commissioned interventions, and the force works with to refer individuals for substance misuse programmes, under schemes such as the Custody Navigator programme, and Liaison and Diversion.  Additionally, the force and OPCC are working with Local Authority substance misuse commissioners to develop a conditional caution referral pathway for offenders. |
| **Ongoing focus – March 2023:**  T/Ch Supt Becs Horsfall (SOC), CI Leanne Dean (CCE and County Lines), DCI Mark Oughton (Drugs Markets) | |
| The force is reviewing the funding options for a Drugs Death Coordinator to provide real time information relating to suspected drugs deaths from across the county which is funded by the four Local Authorities for a period of two years. This role will also ensure that the force has an established early warning system with partners relating to any potentially dangerous drugs trends emerging through the authorities work on Local Drugs Information Systems. This was one of several recommendations from the force internal drugs problem profile.  Drugs Testing on Arrest (DToA) continues to be a focus for the force and the success of the project, funded by the Home Office was recently highlighted at Force Performance Day. The force continues to engage with partners to understand the post-custody journey for those testing positive for controlled drugs and intervention compliance. DToA will feature on the forces Continual Professional Development (CPD) days in 47 sessions over the next three months. Local Authority funding has also been secured to employ a DToA coordinator for three years.  The force will be relaunching the use of the Law Enforcement Public Health App which will encourage officers to download with the use of a QR code. This gives frontline officers information on services available in different areas to share with drugs users should they have an interaction.  Drugs Threat Reduction meetings have now been established in force with discussions held around emerging trends and threats including regional and national updates. The Force lead continues to work with force analysts to provide a quarterly document to assist the needs of the combatting drugs partnerships.  Funding has been secured for training the next Drugs Expert Witness cohort to take place later this year.  The national County Lines Intensification week ran from 27 February to 05 March 2023, with activity taking place across the force, including targeted warrants, searches, and arrests as well as identification of vulnerable people within the communities. This intelligence led operation, supported by the Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCU) County Lines coordinator resulted in the seizure of drugs and cash. The force continues to improve the recognition and response to identified drugs lines through analytical work and prioritising disruption work through the wider partnership.  The force aims to support the safeguarding of young people who may be vulnerable to exploitation, reducing the likelihood of them being drawn into criminal gangs and violence. A pilot scheme ‘Your Life Your Choice’ that was delivered in 2021 by colleagues in the Joint Community Safety Department, is in the next phase of rollout, with a target audience of Year 9 pupils from schools across the county.  17 March2023 sees the launch of the force’s Child Exploitation Campaign. The campaign has been developed alongside subject matter experts from within the force, local partners and with the help of Rotherham CSE survivors. Representatives from partner agencies, charities, and local authorities have been invited to the launch and media will also be in attendance. Assistant Chief Constable Poolman will open the event before the force lead for child exploitation talks through the campaign concepts and how partners can help us share the important messaging.  Awareness Continuous Professional Development (CPD) events have been delivered across the force, with captive audiences from both Police and partners. The intelligence Partnership Portal is also being rolled out to provide a direct pathway for intelligence reports from external agencies and partners to be shared with Police.  A dedicated exploitation coordinator working within the Modern Slavery Team has been introduced to support the ongoing work across the force.  The force continues to work in collaboration with academia and is establishing significant professional relationships with a number of seats of learning.   * Progress on the already reported N8 Policing Research Programme (N8PRP) in conjunction with the University of Sheffield has commenced and funding has been identified and utilised to recruit two analysts bespoke to the research. The main aim of the project is to identify and develop non-punitive measures for tackling illicit drugs and to establish a tool kit for law enforcement intent on developing our capability under the ‘Prevent’ pillar of the national strategy, intent on diverting those vulnerable to drugs misuse. Staff development is also a key deliverable as part of the N8PRP project and, in collaboration with the University of Sheffield, the two recruited analysts are embarking on a Masters degree, with their final dissertation to be based around Serious Organised Crime and narcotics, again enhancing the investment by SYP and the University of Sheffield. * Engagement with the University of Sheffield, York University and South Yorkshire Police has resulted in a successful bid by the universities for almost £1m, to research vulnerabilities exploited by criminals within the private rented sector. This includes money laundering, large scale cannabis cultivation and exploitation of vulnerable people. The research will enable the force to support the development of academic understanding and provide tangible solutions to criminality within this sector. * Further engagement has taken place with Sheffield Hallam University. Negotiations are ongoing for the force’s SOC Coordinator to brief police recruits as part of the degree entry scheme. It is anticipated that students will conduct research into how the force tackles organised criminality in partnership; identify and research national notable best practices; and deliver a dissertation on how forces and practitioners prevent those vulnerable to SOC from entering into a life of serious criminality.   The force has conducted a number of workshops designed to understand our current application to tackling large scale cannabis farms and to improve both the efficiency and safety of officers attending these scenes. The SOC coordinator and force thematic lead for drugs have presented to the Deputy Chief Constable around a number of innovative means for dealing with the issue of large-scale cannabis plants and securing both efficiencies and savings within the process. With the support of the innovation and efficiencies team, the force are currently conducting evaluation of the time spent by police officers at these scenes, exploring alternative means of dealing with the waste material generated by cannabis farms, identifying opportunities for third party support in dismantling the scenes, and refreshing force policies reflecting these notable practices. This will take learning from the nationally recognised operation in Rotherham, ‘Op Grow’ (which secured a Tilley award for problem solving) to support a consistent approach to tackling this criminality, improve interoperability with service providers (predominantly electricity companies), and ensure that officers are best placed to tackle cannabis cultivation safely and lawfully.  Progress on securing the innovative software identified by the Home Office as supporting leading forces in tackling SOC (PAM) is progressing well and the suppliers have afforded the force access to 10 early licences in order to establish a working team, enabling effective roll out once procurement has been finalised. It is anticipated that this will be in use within the next two months.  As previously reported SYP, was one of the initial forces chosen to pilot the ‘Clear Hold and Build’ strategy developed by the Home Office, this was as a result of ongoing working relationships with the HO research and development team as well as supporting the roll out of the national lead responsible officers guidance. The pilot continues in Barnsley and has received notable feedback from the Home Office to date. Highlights include:   * Clear: A greater understanding of the make-up of the OCG, enhanced understanding of the threat posed, developed from class B drugs to class A and firearms enabled. Significant drugs, cash and criminal assets seized and 19 nominal facing conspiracy charges. * Hold: A number of community-based activities including drop in sessions, community clear up, graffiti/rubbish removal, community garden developed, crime reduction stalls, multi-agency patrols and bespoke youth intervention established with professionals. Creation of a specific Operational Delivery Group, chaired by partners, intent on delivering solutions around housing, education, employment, and social activities all based on the voice of the community, improving resilience to crime. * Build: The Operational Delivery Group has secured funding for youth engagement through outreach workers, £0.01m to extend CCTV coverage linking into Barnsley’s town centre provision, securing “Reds in the community” an initiative between Barnsley FC and youths, and supporting residents with the housing legislation in place to evict persons against breaches of the orders.   Community feedback on the project has been excellent, supported by a review of the initial intelligence assessment showing reductions in key areas of demand. The local councillor has expressed his support for the project and his gratitude to the entire partnership in open chambers, remarking on the “improved feel around Hoyland”.  Much of the force’s prevent delivery is achieved through the Joint Community Safety Department (South Yorkshire Police and South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service) at the Lifewise Centre. | |

|  |
| --- |
|  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measure: Reduce neighbourhood crime** | |
| * **Combined measure of Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) data on domestic burglary, robbery, theft of a vehicle, theft from a vehicle, attempts of and from vehicles and theft from the person offences.** | |
| Recorded crime levels | Currently there is no reportable measure within CSEW. Pre-pandemic, neighbourhood crime reported within the CSEW was falling. The survey to March 2020 reported that the *percentage of adults in South Yorkshire who have been a victim of at least one personal crime or have been resident in a household that was a victim of at least one household crime are 4% and 11% respectively* – this was aligned with the national picture.  In the 12 months to June 2019 (baseline) there were 26,496 Neighbourhood Crimes recorded in South Yorkshire. Since June 2019, reductions in recorded crime volumes have been seen in Residential Burglary, Robbery, Theft from Vehicle, Theft from Person, and stable rates of Theft of Vehicle offences.  Some reductions had pre-dated reductions recorded in neighbourhood crime during lockdown. As restrictions have eased there have been increases in volumes of crime, although not to pre-pandemic levels, with an overall reduction in 2021/22 of 18 per cent in comparison with the baseline period.  Whilst reductions are largely maintained, theft of vehicle is an increasing challenge, and the force currently records a higher rate of Residential Burglary, Robbery and Theft from / Of Vehicle than peer forces, although a lower rate of Theft from Person offences. |
| Force response to reducing neighbourhood crime | Prevention activity undertaken by neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs) is the backbone for long-term delivery of crime reduction. The force analysts have identified wards with the highest rates of neighbourhood crime. The NPTs apply an evidence-based policing approach to develop local problem-solving plans for these areas. Bespoke neighbourhood policing training has been developed for NPT officers; the first force to achieve officer accreditation by Skills 4 Justice. This work is supported by effective communications with the public and the force continues to deliver media campaigns for emerging neighbourhood crime types to ensure the public is alert to any local themes of criminality, and where possible undertaking preventative action.  Intelligence Analysts produce bi-weekly patrol plans for each district, using crime and incident records, incoming intelligence, and analytical profiling to review the modus operandi of the latest burglary reports, support local officer awareness, investigative consideration, target-hardening activity and public-facing crime prevention messaging. Prior neighbourhood crime offenders under imminent prison release are also notified to local officers. This is further supported by a monthly vehicle crime and robbery analysis document.  District investigation teams are responsible for the investigation of these offences, management of suspects and offenders. All teams are dedicated to improving the quality of initial scene attendance, evidence capture and investigation to improve action taken outcomes and reduce offending.  Local neighbourhood crime structures are embedded within each district, with clear processes for securing support to tackle immediate and emerging issues, drive performance around cross border forensic hits, maximise the effectiveness of custody processes (TreadMatch/Drug Testing/House Search) and ensure active management of the identified offender management cohort.  Resulting from the development of NPT structures and investigative focus, the force is in a strong position to focus on the continued delivery of reductions in neighbourhood crime. |
| **Ongoing Focus - March 2023**  DCI Jamie Henderson (Serious Acquisitive Crime), Insp Louise Kent (Neighbourhood Policing) | |
| The force lead holds a monthly acquisitive crime governance meeting to assure local drive and delivery against Neighbourhood Crime. This also seeks assurances of processes for intelligence development and drug testing in custody (to provide relevant support to those offenders at high risk of entering acquisitive crime); and to maximise forensic opportunities across all neighbourhood crime types. This group review cross-district forensics outputs to address the impact of those prolific offenders who commit offences across geographical boundaries and ensure there is appropriate ownership and drive to bring prolific offenders to justice quickly. There is a strong established relationships between this group and the Forensic Improvement Group with cross representation through the Area Forensic Manager.  Regional links are well established with respective force leads, with a recently established Vehicle Crime group of Yorkshire and Humber force equivalents to share information on trends and emerging technologies to ensure the force can quickly respond to any emerging crime patterns. Tactical links are established, particularly in those districts that experience cross-border crime, to be aware of emerging trends and work cohesively to tackle perpetrators.  Each district has a bespoke Neighbourhood Crime meeting structure, which is supported with a bi-weekly Residential Burglary analytical document, a monthly vehicle crime analytical document and a monthly Robbery analytical document. The analysis provides each of the four district areas with an overview of the local vehicle criminality as well as analysis on each offence hotspot location and deposition site location. It also includes an overview of the area, common modus operandi, and temporal analysis. Daily management meetings within each district have been reconfigured to focus of FOTS (DNA and Fingerprint Hits) to support the development of intelligence and crime detection opportunities, supported by a local allocation process.  All four districts have presented to the senior leadership team though their Quarterly Performance Reviews about their approach to tackling neighbourhood crime, particularly residential burglary, with bespoke operations or refreshed structures to dedicate focus to this crime type.  The force Tactical Tasking and Coordination Group (TTCG) processes have been refreshed to ensure wider force resources, such as a Proactive Roads Policing and Tactical Support Group, are effectively used to patrol these areas that are identified through intelligence led analysis. Districts are encouraged to provide briefing products with details of nominals and vehicles to be aware of, so that the deployed resources can maximise the use of stop and search to identify offenders.  Problem solving approach training has been delivered to a number of individuals in the force supported by external academic speaker inputs. This supplements previous training in this area and will look to enhance knowledge and capability around the management of our POP plans, specifically looking at why problems recur, and measures that can be taken in prevention. The force’s Intelligence Analysts continue to support with monthly updates for the annual Burglary Problem Orientated Policing (POP) Plan Analysis. This helps to inform local activity to tackle burglary hotspot areas across the 16 active mapped POP plans across the county. Neighbourhood Officers have access to an intervention catalogue via the internal Neighbourhood Portal to support activity and learning. The catalogue provides an evidence base of what has worked well and supplements the problem oriented policing approach. The intervention library provides a link to the documentation for each of the entries, which are categorised by offence/problem type.  A number of analysts within the Performance Management Unit have undertaken training by University College London (UCL) to acquire new skills to delve into why particular crime types happen to particular communities. A group have then analysed the issue of ‘Why do persistent burglary hotspots tend to fall within deprived urban areas and how can this be reduced?’ and in doing so focused this analysis on key hotspot areas. The analysts tested out four key hypotheses through the application of statistical techniques to confirm that in the areas identified, houses broken into have lower security than those not broken into, there are escape routes from the types of houses that are burgled, burglaries relate to drug criminality, and burglaries are increased by the repeated targeting of repeat victims and near repeat victims.  The key findings from the analysis were that the three areas with the highest rate of burglary have a high prevalence of private and social rented accommodation, and a low reported level of basic household security, with only three per cent meeting the highest SPF (Security Protection Factors, Tseloni) criteria. A series of next step considerations have been presented to the force lead. These recommendations will be presented to the Crime Managers (Detective Chief Inspectors representing each district area) at the next Governance Group to drive some local delivery through respective partnership work. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measure: Improve satisfaction among victims, with a particular focus on victims of DA** | |
| |  | | --- | | * **Satisfaction with the police among victims of domestic abuse (CSEW)** | | * **Victim satisfaction with the police (CSEW)** | | |
| Recorded satisfaction levels | There is no local comparison available against a national measure, but the force has locally invested to undertake victim feedback surveys to support an understanding of service delivery.  In the 12 months to March 2022, victim satisfaction with overall service in South Yorkshire is 74 per cent for victims of a combined crime measure (domestic burglary, vehicle crime, vulnerable, and hate victims), and 82 per cent for local victims of Domestic Abuse. |
| Force response to improving victim satisfaction | South Yorkshire Police works alongside the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to deliver a victim feedback survey with a focus on understanding the elements where service can be improved. The force seeks the views of members of the public across South Yorkshire who have been recent victims of domestic burglary, vehicle crime, hate crime, domestic abuse, stalking, vulnerable victims and anti-social behaviour victims.  The Victim Satisfaction Strategy 2021-2024 refers to several factors which aim to improve victim satisfaction across the force. Whilst the force usually receives positive feedback for the initial response to incidents, and treatment of victims by officers, the main areas for improvement are in the updating of victims by the officer and keeping victims informed of the investigation progress. Two other areas which can result in negative feedback are satisfaction levels where an officer did not attend, and those instances where the victim was not provided with the victims’ booklet (or a link to the online version).  Compliance against the Victims Code of Practice (VCOP), including an assessment of the force’s delivery of enhanced service where appropriate, and delivery of the communications plan is coordinated through the strategic group. It is difficult to understand compliance without a manual review, to ensure that the correct people have been identified as being entitled to an enhanced service and whether they receive this service or not. As a result of review, changes were made to the referrals process to better support the identification of victim vulnerability.  DA Matters training was provided to over 1600 front line officers and staff in 2020/21. This included a focus on the importance of risk assessment, and identification of additional vulnerability to support intervention, supporting the victim service. A network of DA champions continues to operate across the force to support ongoing local delivery and looking for ways to improve the service provided. |
| **Ongoing focus – March 2023:**  T/Ch Insp John Crapper (Victim Satisfaction), Det Supt Dave Cowley (Domestic Abuse) | |
| The force’s current delivery plan for victim satisfaction is:   1. Assessing the victim care landscape across the force. 2. Embed the Initial Victim Needs Assessment (IVNA) 3. Improve understanding of where the force can improve service delivery some areas of attended incidents. 4. Improve understanding of where the force can improve service delivery with non-attended incidents. 5. Monitoring the Victim’s Bill as it moves through parliament.   Changes to the reporting system means that there is a better understanding of vulnerability, but the other  steps of an Initial Victims Needs Assessment (IVNA) remain poorly recorded. The force lead’s current assessment is that officers have a good awareness of VCOP, however less is understood about the IVNA requirements. The force intends to hold an internal campaign later this Spring/Summer to embed the changes that need to take place to drive compliance and improvement. This will specifically raise awareness of IVNA, promote and share good examples of victim care, and showcase messaging, videos, interviews and posters to raise awareness within the force.  A review is underway of the victim satisfaction questions sets and wording with additional areas for consideration to support focus on insight in specific areas. This work, usually undertaken annually, involves the force’s survey manager with implications on the development of appropriate reporting tools. The force also intends to carry out further dip-sampling to identify officers who deliver well in their approach to victim care, with a view to arranging a focus group with these individuals, particularly focusing on those areas where improvements are most needed. This will be used to positively support the internal campaign.  The national landscape is continuing to develop in this area, with the introduction of the Victims Bill into parliament as a government priority. Whilst the force delivers a victim satisfaction survey, and has done so for many years, the Home Office is in the process of introducing a National Victim Satisfaction Survey. The force will continue to await further updates and understand what the sampling requirements will be for the provision of information into this process. There will obviously be work required to avoid overlap and duplication within the existing victim survey process when there is more clarity of the detail underpinning the national delivery.  The force is signing up to accessible reporting for the public through a portal called Single Online Home (SOH), which, as a product not dissimilar to the force’s existing product, has been adopted by many forces already. Using the SOH online portal the public can access advice and a variety of police services. For Domestic Abuse there are plans for the force to retain the existing reporting portal as it has a good translation service for key minority groups in South Yorkshire. There will be advice and guidance for DA online, and the Clare’s Law or Domestic Violence Disclosure scheme applications will move online.  Specifically in respect of Domestic Abuse victims, the force is preparing to implement a new national Domestic Abuse risk assessment tool. This will replace the current process, and training and the technology to implement the tool are being developed. No firm ‘Go Live’ date has been set but it is hoped that this will be implemented in early 2023/24.  The force has agreed to implement the ‘Good Sam’ rapid video response to DA. This allows police to interview DA victims via a video conferencing link and has proved a success in Kent and various other forces. Details on how this will be implemented for DA are still being worked out but feedback from the pilot run late last year was very good and it is felt that for incidents where the victim consents to being dealt with by video conference and the perpetrator is not present, the ‘Good Sam’ system improves efficiency and victim confidence.  The force has worked with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to apply for funding from the Home Office Domestic Abuse (DA) Perpetrator fund to further support the Inspire to Change perpetrator programme, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination (MATAC), and to commission a new Conditional Caution perpetrator programme. This will coincide with the introduction of police decision conditional cautions for Domestic Abuse classified as ‘standard risk’. The force is awaiting the outcome of the application.  There is national work ongoing with NPCC leads and CPS to work together to improve DA conviction rates nationally. Several ‘Theory of Change’ sessions have been set up across the country and the force will be engaging with these and a Joint Justice Plan will be produced. This will link in with work already ongoing to develop training for front line officers in prosecution file build, in order to further improve the quality of our submissions to CPS.  The force ran an event internally in March 2023 to provide training and briefings in relation to Police Perpetrated Domestic Abuse (PPDA). The Professional Standards Department (PSD) deal with the majority of PPDA and the force have invited SafeLives to provide an input on how to support victims and deal with PPDA. PSD will also explain to partners the process in place for dealing with PPDA in South Yorkshire. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measure: Tackle Cyber Crime** | |
| * **Public confidence in the law enforcement response to cybercrime (Cyber Aware Tracker)** * **Proportion of businesses experiencing a cyber breach or attack (Cyber Security Breaches Survey)** | |
| Recorded | The datasets are not currently available at a local level. On a quarterly basis, the force provides data returns to the region which feeds a national performance report to the NPCC Cybercrime Programme Board.  Recorded cybercrime offences have continued to increase in recent years, with over 10,000 offences recorded in 2022. The largest cybercrime categories are harassment and malicious communications (including domestic abuse), fraud, obscene publications and blackmail, thus tackling this criminality is widespread across a number of operational areas. |
| Force response to reducing cyber crime | There is an increasing digital footprint within criminality and the force has taken steps to support officers in undertaking cyber-dependent or cyber-enabled investigations. Despite this, keeping pace with the rate of technological advancement adopted by offenders is a challenge.  Cybercrime is a cross cutting theme within the force Control Strategy, and the approach to cybercrime mirrors the four strands of the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy – Pursue, Protect, Prevent and Prepare. SYP has a dedicated Cyber Protect Officer who is responsible for supporting the delivery of the Protect strand in relation to cybercrime. This officer works extensively with local businesses and public groups to support prevention messaging, and circulating emerging issues across media platforms. Key to this work is the early intervention in place to deliver ‘cyber choices’ input for children considered to be at risk of cyber offending.  The force has invested in a Digital Forensics Unit, digital evidence kiosks (available to officers across the organisation) and a Digital Intelligence and Investigations Unit (specialises in the investigation of complex cyber-dependent offences). The Digital Intelligence and Investigations Unit also works to support the wider Yorkshire and Humber Regional Cyber Crime Unit (RCCU), the National Crime Agency, and other force Cyber Crime Units as required.  Digital Media Investigators across the force work to support local officer knowledge and capability. Street Skills training, reaching all frontline response and NPT officers, includes cyber-crime input. The force has an internal intranet page dedicated to cybercrime to provide an information support for all officers. This includes the force’s Little Book of Cyber Scams, and links to the Met Police mini videos on various cyber scam topics.  ISO 17025 is the international standard applicable for all laboratories performing calibrations and/or tests. The United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) is the national body with responsibility for assessing organisations that provide these services. In 2019, SYP gained accreditation in the physical capture and preservation of data from computer related devices and in Autumn 2020 completed an extension to scope the capture and processing of data from mobile devices. The force recognises the need to continually improve the resources and training to respond to and prevent cybercrime and is committed to continued investment in digitally capability. |
| **Ongoing focus – March 2023**:  DCI Claire Mayfield (Digital Investigations and Cyber) | |
| Since August 2022, when the Cyber Protect Officer commenced work with the force several events have been held to highlight the dangers of cybercrime. In relation to the public, there have been “pop up events” in city and town centres across the force. There have been a number of social media campaigns in relation to raising the awareness of cybercrime as well as Instagram Q&A sessions and radio interviews in relation to the dangers of cybercrime. This preventative activity will continue.  In terms of business victims of cybercrime, there is proactive work on going to raise awareness of the North East Business Resilience Centre (NEBRC) and allow direct referrals. The force works closely with NEBRC and signpost all business victims of cyber related crimes. There are future plans to hold events for businesses to attend with presentations to be given to highlight the dangers of cybercrime and inform how to protect both the individuals and the business. There is also promotion of Police Cyber Alarm (PCA) which is a tool provided by the force and funded by the Home Office to help businesses monitor and report suspicious cyber activity.  Work has taken place in schools and with local authorities to raise awareness and to safeguard vulnerable individuals from being at risk of cybercrime. This includes webinar sessions and in-person events, this work will continue with more events planned with schools and local authority.  The cyber team in both PURSUE and PROTECT work closely with the region in terms of supporting operations. A current example is ‘Cyber Switch Up’ which is a digital and cyber skills competition aimed at young people aged 11-16 which is being run by region and proactively supported by the force. | |