

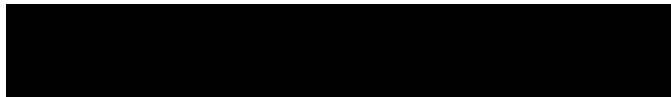
# Public Document Pack



Friday 27 October 2023

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

This matter is being dealt with by:  
email:



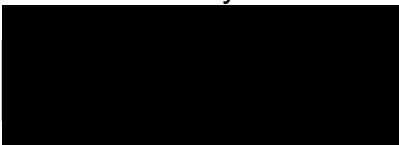
Dear Colleague

## **Public Accountability Board**

You are invited to the next Public Accountability Board which will be held on **Monday 6th November 2023** at **2.00 pm** and will be held at Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, 5 Carbrook Hall Road, Carbrook, Sheffield, S9 2EH and via MS Teams.

The agenda and supporting papers are attached.

Yours sincerely



Dr Alan Billings  
South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Enc.

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**MONDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2023**

### **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		

	<b>Item</b>		<b>Page</b>
	are otherwise operationally sensitive or would attract an exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.		
<b>7</b>	Declarations of Interest	Dr A Billings	Verbal Report
<b>8</b>	Minutes of the meeting of the Public Accountability Board held on 7 September 2023	Dr A Billings	5 - 12
<b>9</b>	Matters Arising/Actions There are no matters arising	M Buttery	
	<b>FORCE PERFORMANCE</b>		
<b>10</b>	Rotherham District Summary Update	L Kosciwicz	13 - 34
<b>11</b>	Force Performance Against the Police and Crime Plan 2022 - 2025 - Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour	T Forber	35 - 54
<b>12</b>	Force Quarterly Budget Monitoring Overview (Q2)	D Carrington	55 - 64
	<b>ASSURANCE REPORTS</b>		
<b>13</b>	Independent Ethics Panel	M Lewis	65 - 66
<b>14</b>	Joint Independent Audit Committee	S Wragg	67 - 72
	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORTING</b>		
<b>15</b>	Trust & Confidence	M Buttery	73 - 76
<b>16</b>	PCC Decisions	M Buttery	77 - 78
<b>17</b>	Work Programme	M Buttery	79 - 80
<b>18</b>	Any Other Business To be notified at the beginning of the meeting		
<b>19</b>	Date and Time of Next Meeting 8 January 2024 at 2pm		

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## PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD: NOTE OF THE MEETING

7 September 2023

### Attendees present (in person and virtually)

Dr A Billings (Chair)  
 M Buttery (Chief Executive & Solicitor, OPCC)  
 S Abbott (Chief Finance Officer, OPCC)  
 F Topliss (Engagement & Communications Manager, OPCC)  
 S Parkin (Governance & Compliance Manager, OPCC)  
 S Baldwin (Evaluation & Scrutiny Officer, OPCC)  
 K Wright (Evaluation & Scrutiny Officer, OPCC)  
 C Smith (Performance & Assurance Officer, OPCC)  
 K Dearnley (Engagement & Consultation Officer, OPCC)  
 L Poultney (Chief Constable, South Yorkshire Police (SYP))  
 T Forber (Deputy Chief Constable, SYP)  
 R Alton (Temporary Assistant Chief Constable, SYP)  
 J Bland (Assistant Chief Officer Resources, SYP)  
 D Carrington (Chief Finance Officer, SYP)  
 I Proffitt (Chief Superintendent, Doncaster, SYP)  
 C Bloxham (Superintendent, SYP)  
 J Humphries (Violence Reduction Unit)  
 S Wragg (Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee)  
 M Lewis (Interim Chair of the Independent Ethics Panel)

### Apologies received

E Redfearn, C Goodwin, S Poolman, D Thorpe and D Hartley

NO:	AGENDA ITEM NAME
1	<p><b><u>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>The Commissioner welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>
2	<p><b><u>FILMING NOTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p>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 (<a href="http://www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/">www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/</a>) where it can be viewed at a later date.</p>
3	<p><b><u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u></b></p> <p>There were no announcements.</p>

4	<p><b><u>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</u></b></p> <p>There were no public questions.</p>
5	<p><b><u>URGENT ITEMS</u></b></p> <p>The PCC requested assurance in the following areas:</p> <p><b><u>Body Worn Video</u></b></p> <p>R Alton provided an update on Body Worn Video (BWV) and the loss of the data between July 2020 and May 2023. SYP is working with criminal justice partners and the judiciary to look at the overall impact this may have on cases. 82 cases have been identified. The impact has been assessed at very low jeopardy in relation to criminal cases. Some of the evidence can be obtained by other means. The main focus is to the victims affected. SYP has a process in place to make sure that if there are any issues that need to be addressed, this can be undertaken on a bespoke basis. Updates are shared with His Honour Judge Jeremy Richardson KC, the Recorder of Sheffield. The Crown Court and Magistrates Courts are being briefed on a regular basis. SYP is compliant with disclosure. Advice and guidance is being given to officers who have a case involving Body Worn Video that supports a case going forward and there is a process in place to follow to make sure disclosure is undertaken at the earliest opportunity. Investigations to establish the root cause is still underway and this may take some time. The main focus is on supporting victims. Gold meetings on BWV are taking place.</p> <p><b><u>Reinforced Autoclave Aerated Concrete (RAAC)</u></b></p> <p>The Chief Constable confirmed that she is aware of the concerns about RAAC in public buildings. SYP's Estates Department is investigating whether any of SYP's buildings are affected, and the PCC will be kept informed.</p>
6	<p><b><u>ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS</u></b></p> <p>There were no items to be considered in the absence of the public and press.</p>
7	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
8	<p><b><u>SUMMARY NOTE AND DECISIONS/ACTIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD HELD ON 6 JULY 2023</u></b></p> <p>The notes of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record.</p>

<b>9</b>	<p><b><u>ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>455 - Further information to be provided on the work of the LADOs (Local Authority Designated Officers), including the benefits of them working with the police on missing people</b>  <b>Update:</b> Update provided (see Appendix A). Discharged</li> </ul>
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<b>10</b>	<p><b><u>DONCASTER DISTRICT SUMMARY UPDATE</u></b></p>
<b>Purpose</b>	To provide assurance to the Public Accountability Board (PAB) and the communities of Doncaster that SYP is committed to working with our partners to deliver the vision and strategic objectives of the Police and Crime Plan.
<b>Key points</b>	<p>A discussion took place with Chief Superintendent Ian Proffitt, the District Commander for Doncaster, about the report in the Agenda Pack.  The Commissioner asked questions about the following areas in the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aspiration for a fourth response base at Adwick Police Station</li> <li>• The Incident Triage Team</li> <li>• Retail Crime</li> <li>• Low sickness levels on the district's response teams</li> <li>• Residential burglary</li> <li>• Personal robbery by young people</li> <li>• The membership of Doncaster's Independent Advisory Group</li> <li>• Rural crime</li> <li>• Drugs intervention activity</li> <li>• VAWG (Violence Against Women and Girls)</li> <li>• Domestic Violence Protection Orders</li> <li>• Missing from Home cases</li> <li>• Modern slavery and human trafficking, including "Pop-up" brothels</li> <li>• Operation Duxford</li> </ul>
<b>Decision / Action</b>	None

<b>11</b>	<p><b><u>FORCE PERFORMANCE AGAINST POLICE AND CRIME PLAN – TREATING PEOPLE FAIRLY</u></b></p>
<b>Purpose</b>	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.
<b>Key points</b>	<p>A discussion took place in the following areas of the report in the Agenda Pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive action</li> <li>• Recruitment from 'ethnic minority' backgrounds</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research into the age that people decide to join the police</li> <li>• Hate crime</li> <li>• 'Your Voice Counts' survey results</li> <li>• Stop and search</li> <li>• Special measures (for all domestic abuse victims) training</li> </ul>
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>12</b>	<b><u>QUARTERLY BUDGET MONITORING REPORT (Q1)</u></b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To inform the Public Accountability Board of the Force's outturn on its revenue and capital budgets as of 31 March 2024. It is based on an analysis of income and expenditure for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 before accounting adjustments.
<b>Key points</b>	<p>D Carrington, SYP's Chief Finance Officer drew attention to the following areas within the report in the Agenda Pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SYP is currently projecting a £1.6m underspend (before legacy costs)</li> <li>• The biggest projected underspend is against Gas and Electric costs of £1.2m. This is due to much more favourable prices than originally anticipated</li> <li>• Work is currently taking place to assess the full financial impact of the police pay award announced during early July. It is anticipated that this will be fully funded by the Home Office in the current financial year. However, early indications are that this will be a cost pressure next year and beyond</li> <li>• The 2023/24 savings target is £3.72m of which £3.26m is currently showing as achieved and captured on the savings plan</li> <li>• The capital programme is projected to spend in full</li> <li>• There are a few capital projects which are expected to slip</li> <li>• Overspend on seized dogs</li> </ul>
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>13</b>	<b><u>FIREARMS LICENSING REVIEW</u></b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To inform the Public Accountability Board on the findings from a bi-annual review of Firearms Licensing
<b>Key points</b>	<p>Superintendent C Bloxham, drew attention to the following areas within the report in the Agenda Pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of certificate holders in possession of firearms after the expiry of their certificates</li> <li>• The number of temporary certificates issued</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewals are now business as usual</li> <li>• The application process</li> <li>• The grants awaiting input has now returned to business as usual levels</li> <li>• The number of revoked firearms and shotgun licences</li> <li>• Firearms licence appeals</li> </ul>
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>14</b>	<b><u>HMICFRS UPDATE</u></b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To inform the Public Accountability Board that SYP has effective arrangements in place to monitor and progress recommendations made by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS)
<b>Key points</b>	T Forber provided assurance on SYP's internal governance process in support of delivery against HMICFRS actions.
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>15</b>	<b><u>JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE (JIAC) ASSURANCE REPORT</u></b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To inform the Commissioner of any exceptions for noting from the JIAC meetings held on 22 June 2023 and 19 July 2023
<b>Key points</b>	S Wragg, Chair of the JIAC, drew attention to the following areas within the report in the Agenda Pack: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Head of Internal Audit's overall assurance opinion – as 'Reasonable'</li> <li>• IT Governance issues</li> <li>• Change of both Internal and External Auditors</li> </ul>
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>16</b>	<b><u>PCC'S ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23</u></b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To receive and comment on the PCC's Annual Report 2022/23

<b>Key points</b>	M Buttery, the OPCC Chief executive & Solicitor, highlighted the following key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires each PCC to produce an annual report</li> <li>• The PCC's Annual Report 2022/23 incorporates the comments of the Police and Crime Panel</li> <li>• The PCC's Annual Report 2022/23 will be designed in a more engaging format before publication</li> <li>• The PCC thanked everyone who had contributed to the Annual Report 2022/23</li> </ul>
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>17</b>	<b><u>PCC DECISIONS</u></b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To provide the Board with a record of key decisions taken by the Commissioner outside of this Board since the last PAB meeting
<b>Key points</b>	M Buttery drew attention to the following points from the report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There had been four decisions since the last meeting</li> <li>• The PCC's allocation from Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) funding</li> <li>• The Violence Reduction Fund decisions</li> </ul>
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>18</b>	<b><u>WORK PROGRAMME</u></b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To provide the Board with an overview of the content of future meetings
<b>Key points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The work programme was noted</li> </ul>
<b>Decision/ Action</b>	None

<b>19</b>	<b><u>AOB</u></b>
	None

<b>20</b>	<b><u>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</u></b>
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	6 November 2023 at 2pm
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## APPENDIX A

### **Action 455 - Further information to be provided on the work of the LADOs, including the benefits of them working with the police on missing people**

#### Response

##### LADO role:

- To coordinate the safeguarding and investigative process in response to allegations made against people working with children.
- To provide advice/guidance to employers or voluntary organisations when there are concerns or allegations about individuals who work with children.
- To liaise with police and other agencies including Ofsted and professional bodies such as the Disclosure and Baring Service (DBS) General Medical Council (GMC) and the Teaching Regulatory Agency (TRA).
- To monitor the progress of referrals to ensure they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process.
- To resolve any inter-agency issues.
- To collect strategic data and maintain a confidential database in relation to allegations.
- To ensure that measures are in place to prevent further harm or abuse and that where required, referrals are made to the appropriate social care team or regulatory body

Every local authority has a statutory responsibility to have a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) who is responsible for co-ordinating the response to concerns.

The LADO will be alerted to all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works with children has behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed a child, including committing a criminal offences a child or related to children.

LADO will manage any allegations made.

In terms of the police relationship around LADO specific to Missing there are circumstances where this is used. This is often when an adult in employment is under investigation around criminality linked to a missing child. LADO may support information gathering and ongoing safeguarding.

The benefit of this approach ensures better information sharing between agencies.

**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>October 2023</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>Chief Constable Lauren Poultney</b>

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 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 enable 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 such as to ASB in Swinton, neighbourhood crime in Hellaby and shoplifting in Rawmarsh. 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 and Q2 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 continually review resourcing in the short and medium term to ensure we're able to meet the demands placed upon us and keep our communities safe.

This report will provide an update on activity across our priority areas such as burglary. Rotherham has developed a dedicated Neighbourhood Crime Team which proactively targets prolific burglary offenders who cause harm to our communities in their own homes. Anti-Social Behaviour continues to be a main area of focus for our Neighbourhood Policing Teams, which impacts on the quality of life for our communities.

Domestic abuse remains a clear priority for the district. Rotherham ensures a quick and timely response to calls for service seeking to deliver a victim focused response to investigation and safeguarding. Despite an increase in crimes we have seen our overall arrest rate remain stable and have seen an increase in positive outcome 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).

Our officers continue to focus on delivering a prompt response, prioritising threat, harm, risk and vulnerability whilst seeking to deliver a quality service to those most in need.

## **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)**

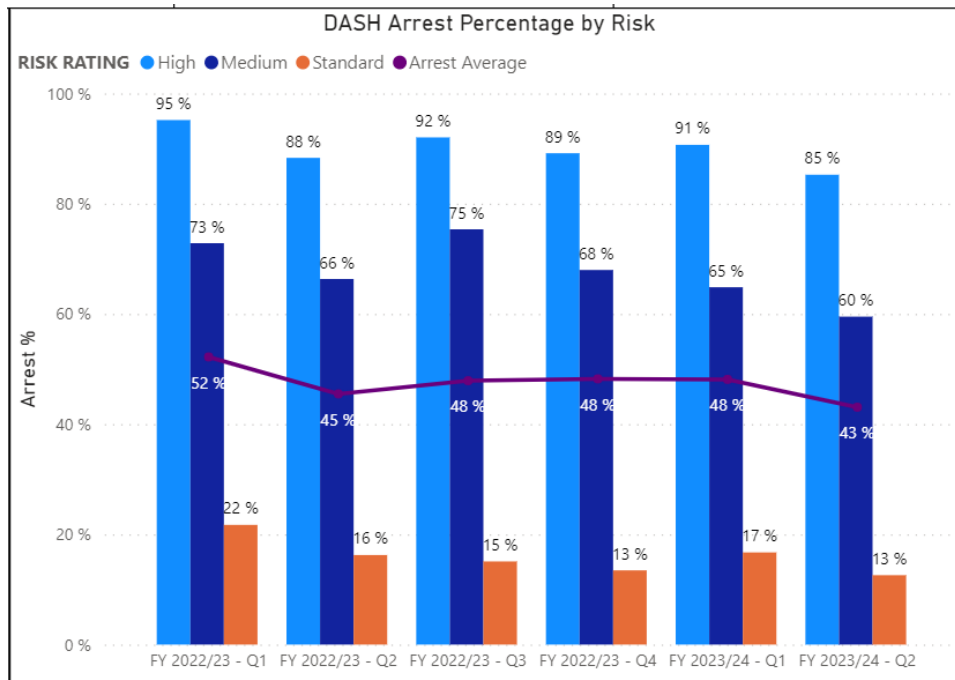
- 2.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is recommended to consider the content of this report on behalf of the public in Rotherham and across South Yorkshire.

## **3. PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

### **3.1 Domestic Abuse**

- 3.1.1 Domestic Abuse (DA) volumes across Rotherham have increased in Q1/Q2 of 23/24 compared to the same period of 22/23. This is an increase in this period of 7% (158 crimes). This is contrary to the forces downward trend in the same period of 5%.
- 3.1.2 Rotherham's incident rate per head of population is in line with the Force average.
- 3.1.3 Through the Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP), there is a continued focus on domestic abuse making sure all agencies work together to ensure victims have the confidence to come forward and report abuse. The district welcomes the increase as a positive indicator in terms of both awareness in our communities of DA not being acceptable and victim confidence to seek help from the police.
- 3.1.4 Rotherham ensures that when a report is received into the district, we prioritise initial attendance to ensure early support for the victim, maximise any opportunity to gather evidence quickly relating to the offence, and seek the early arrest of any identified suspect/offender.
- 3.1.5 Rotherham's overall arrest rate in Q1 23/24 was 48% and in Q2 23/24 was 43%, although the Q2 arrest rate will increase as we move through the early parts of Q3, and we continue to prioritise DA investigations. The Rotherham average arrest rate (45%) is slightly higher than the force average (43%) over these two quarters.

Figure 1 – Rotherham arrest rate for Domestic Abuse



- 3.1.6 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 in Q1 and Q2 60% of arrests took place within 1 day of the report with a further 16% made within 7 days.
- 3.1.7 All High-risk investigations, and medium risks investigations involving an intimate partners relationship are investigated by the specialist Domestic Abuse Team (DAT) in Rotherham. Officers work with partner agencies, which include the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA's) to support victims and build confidence within them to support investigations. Lower risk investigations are often progressed by our Response Teams, and where appropriate our Neighbourhood Teams (repeat victims). Partners associated with these investigations include Rotherham RISE<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.1.8 The domestic abuse team continue to utilise the Quality Assurance Thematic Testing (QATT) to ensure that there is a focus on continuing to learn and drive improvements to investigations, safeguarding, and investigator accountability.
- 3.1.9 Officers have a duty and responsibility to take steps in ensuring a victim feels as safe as possible, 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) and Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO).
- 3.1.10 These notices and orders may be used following a domestic incident. The process is designed to give breathing space to victims by granting a temporary respite from their abuser and allowing referral to support services without interference.
- 3.1.11 In Q1 23/24, 40 DVPNs were approved by a Superintendent with 37 DVPO applications being granted by the court.

<sup>1</sup> Rotherham RISE provide trauma-informed support to adults, young people and children affected by Domestic Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation

### **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 supports discussions in relation to the threat they may pose and allows the victim to make informed decisions about how to safeguard themselves/family. Disclosure also ensures agencies such as police/social care/Rotherham Rise work together to minimise any further/ongoing risk. Disclosure can be made by request (Right to Ask), initiated by the victim/victims' family/friends or by the police and partners (Right to Know).
- 3.2.2 There has been a steady increase over the years in victims requesting information about their partner's history, which is a positive story, and gives reassurance victims/survivors/family/friends are becoming more engaged/aware of the process. The Command Team believe the increases to be linked to increased demand/reports of DA, victim/victim's family/friends having the confidence in asking the police for information and the further work the force has invested in the Violence Against Women and Girls campaign.

### **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 meeting is attended by partners and chaired by the police monthly. Each month, four new nominals are identified through a risk assessment algorithm. It is similar to MARAC but aimed at serial perpetrators to address their behaviour and provide support to the wider family.
- 3.3.2 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 best outcome for victim with the positive action taken rate for high-risk offenders increasing from Q1/2 in 22/23 to 23/24 (29% to 31%). We work well in partnership to safeguard and support victims of DA.

What are we concerned about:

- 3.4.2 We continue to seek opportunities to improve our response to Domestic Abuse focusing on ensuring our initial response is both timely, victim focused whilst pursuing all opportunities to gather evidence.

What are we doing about it:

- 3.4.3 Our audit and assurance work identifies good practice and areas of improvement. This is fed into our DA improvement plan.



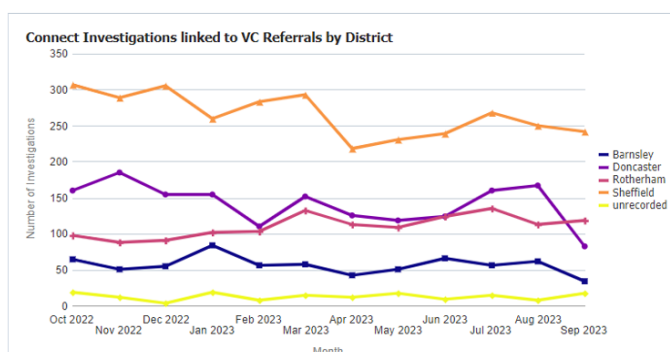
### 3.5 Vulnerable People

3.5.1 Our Protecting Vulnerable Persons teams investigate offences against children and vulnerable people.

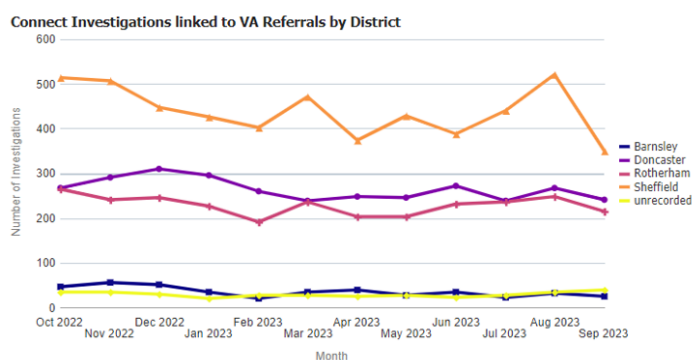
3.5.2 Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults remains front and centre of partnership working across Rotherham. Staffing of our PVP investigation teams has been a priority for the district, this is in respect of both filling posts within the department but also ensuring they are skilled and fully equipped to carry out this vital role.

3.5.3 With the forthcoming changes to Rape investigation, linked to Project Soteria, South Yorkshire Police has implemented additional training for officers and staff to support their response to victims of Rape and Serious sexual offences.

3.5.4 The graphs below demonstrate a stable trend around the numbers of vulnerable child referrals.



3.5.5 The graphs below identify the volume of adult referrals completed by officers and staff. This again demonstrates a stable trend having decreased from this time last year.



### 3.6 Child Exploitation (CE)

3.6.1 Rotherham has a dedicated child exploitation (CE) team, and this continues to be a focus for us with a continual need to maintain and improve our response to safeguard and protect victims of exploitation.

3.6.2 We are proud of and have confidence in our multiagency response to Child Exploitation. This has been supported by multiple independent and inspectorate

reviews over the last year. The Rotherham model is being used as a model of best practice to support development across SYP and beyond.

- 3.6.3 This does not lead us to sit on our laurels. It is important that we continually seek opportunities to improve our response and adapt to the changing threats and offending patterns so we can continue to identify and safeguard vulnerable children from harm and seek to pursue those who target our vulnerable children. We have strong partnership governance arrangements to meet these needs through the Child Exploitation Delivery Group (CEDG) and the Child Exploitation Tactical Group (CETG).
- 3.6.4 After the success of the forcewide roll out Child Matters training around child neglect. Rotherham district together with RMBC have begun the process of developing a further program of bespoke training around child exploitation which will be rolled out to all public facing staff across the Rotherham partnership through this financial year. 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.
- 3.6.5 SYP and the safer Rotherham Partnership have well developed and effective structures and processes around intelligence management in respect of Child exploitation. This has led to an increase in intelligence submissions around Child Exploitation which support earlier intervention and safeguarding opportunities.
- 3.6.6 This feeds into our key process the Criminal Exploitation Tactical Group - which is a weekly multi-agency process chaired by the Detective Chief Inspector with attendance across the partnership.
- 3.6.7 Its purpose is to review all new intelligence submissions and missing child episodes, understand the concerns, map, and put into place plans and actions to mitigate or eliminate the risk. It is a whole way of working, sharing full intelligence reports with all partners, a collegiate approach of full information sharing.

### **3.7 Makesafe**

- 3.7.1 We continue to deliver Operation MAKESAFE which is a national initiative that originated in South Yorkshire. This operation is focused on raising awareness of child 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 There is a planned programme of Operation Makesafe activity which has already commenced and will run through 2023.

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

What is working well:

- 3.8.1 Forcewide officer training in Rape and Serious Sexual Offence investigations.
- 3.8.2 Operation Makesafe ensures hotels and bed/breakfast establishments understand the indicators of child exploitation and know how to report concerns.
- 3.8.3 Effective and robust intelligence management and partnership sharing processes, coupled with initiatives designed to drive intelligence collection and submission both internally and across the Safer Rotherham Partnership.

What are we concerned about:

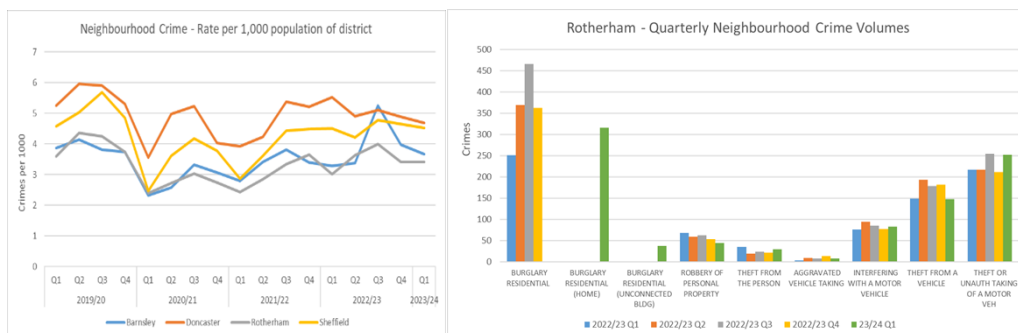
- 3.8.4 The reduced numbers of qualified detectives across all portfolios remain a challenge, aggravated by some increases in demand. As new officers come into PVP departments focussed training and supervision will be key.

What are we doing about it:

- 3.8.5 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.
- 3.8.6 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.

#### 4. TACKLING CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

- 4.1.1 Neighbourhood crime remains a focus within the force, and within Rotherham district and significant work has been completed in this area.
- 4.1.2 Although volumes of neighbourhood crime were higher in 2022/2023 compared with the previous year, Rotherham remains below volumes seen elsewhere in the force and quarter one has seen reductions in offences compared with the previous two quarters.



- 4.1.3 Although previous quarters have seen increases in residential burglaries within the district- the last two quarters have seen reductions in offences.

- 4.1.4 Vehicle related offences remain at consistent levels over recent periods- however work does continue in this area with a problem-solving approach being adopted by the Neighbourhood Teams in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Crime Team within district to ensure prevention, intervention, engagement, and enforcement tactics are all utilised which is driven via the POP process and Neighbourhood Crime Governance fortnightly meeting.
- 4.1.5 Examples of work within this area include the recent POP work in Hellaby in response to theft from motor vehicle offences- key times were identified, target hardening including exploring CCTV options was completed and the NPT, along with partners, engaged with local businesses to explore other options for lorries to securely park. This joint work has led to a stark reduction in offences within the locality.
- 4.1.6 Other work being progressed by the team relates to burglaries within the Kiveton area identified as 2 in 1 burglary. The team have increased their engagement within the area to offer crime prevention advice and issue security devices to target harden. They have also established a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator to progress the scheme within the area.
- 4.1.7 The neighbourhood function continues to also focus on tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and use the Problem Oriented Policing approach to target specific issues in conjunction with partners.
- 4.1.8 As part of the response to Violent Crime- the teams work closely alongside the GRIP team, and regularly seek opportunities for GRIP to support or strengthen ongoing work including patrols, target hardening, and intervention.
- 4.1.9 The GRIP team recently supported Central NPT with an 'Operation Sidewinder' drugs dog operation, within the town centre, including licensed premise, and the Interchange. This resulted in the following results:
- 2 x Cannabis Cautions
  - 2 x Cannabis cigarettes recovered, and 3 x Bags of Cannabis Recovered (£120 worth in total)
  - 14 x Stop and Searches (All either trace or admitted recent use)
  - 2 x Urban Stash Point Searches
  - 3 x Room Searches
  - 1 x Pub Walk through and Cocaine Wipe checks (Positive)
  - 20 x Members of public spoken too. A great deal of positive feedback.
  - 5 x Local businesses linked in with.

What is working well:

- 4.1.10 The joined-up approach of Neighbourhood functions, other district colleagues, GRIP and partners allows for a real joined up approach to responding to these issues and conducting early intervention to prevent emerging issues from taking hold.

What are we concerned about:

- 4.1.11 Potential increases in demand in the build-up to the dark nights

What are we doing about it:

- 4.1.12 Continue to use local knowledge to identify any emerging or seasonal issues to allow a pre-emptive and planned approach before an issue takes hold within an area.

**4.2 Overall Demand**

- 4.2.1 Staffing numbers across the Neighbourhood's portfolio remains a challenge within both Police Officer and PCSO roles within the function.
- 4.2.2 Rotherham district recognise the importance of these roles and are actively recruiting into the Neighbourhood PC function with plans to post further officers to fill some vacancies towards the end of the year.
- 4.2.3 Neighbourhood Teams and Safer Neighbourhood Services continue to routinely scan incidents for high demand locations.
- 4.2.4 Recent work has been put in place as early intervention tactics to some of these areas that see seasonal increases in ASB and public safety including bodies of water- and the teams produced pre-emptive problem-solving plans to educate and provide target hardening to prevent issues from occurring.
- 4.2.5 This also included a 999-emergency services day, CCTV improvements, 'Sam's Army' patrols and other interventions. An approach that saw a reduction in issues and largely avoided the usual seasonal trends from occurring.
- 4.2.6 Another area that has benefited from this approach is the work that is ongoing from the Rotherham District General Hospital- where a monthly meeting has been established, the different demand broken down which resulted in education being put in place, plus new process maps being created to improve methods of reporting.
- 4.2.7 A new Joint Agreement for assaults on emergency services workers has also directly fed into a joint pledge. This has all assisted in a month-by-month reduction.
- 4.2.8 Rotherham reflected the recent national trend in a spike in shoplifting related offences- including several retail premises identified as creating the highest demand. Problem solving work was conducted in relation to these premises in conjunction with partners and crime prevention visits and advice was conducted, prolific offenders identified and detained and youths that were committing ASB dealt with by using joint powers and interventions.
- 4.2.9 A recent example of this relates to the Problem-solving work that was conducted at a store in Rawmarsh- this approach included DOCO <sup>2</sup>visits for target hardening and considering crime reporting processes to ensure that offences are reported at the same time and not grouped together- which allows for more expeditious investigations. This saw a reduction in offences and key nominals being identified and processed.
- 4.2.10 It is due to this ongoing, targeted, and proactive work that the overall crime rate in Rotherham is below the force average with a 14% reduction in shoplifting offences in quarter one compared with offences in quarter 4.

What is working well:

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<sup>2</sup> Designing out crime officers; provide advice and engage with partners/stakeholders at the earliest stages of a project aimed to design out crime and provide a build environment that reduces crime and the fear of crime.

- 4.2.11 The problem-solving approach to high demand locations assists in a targeted and focussed way of tackling an issue and documenting what has worked so that it can be used elsewhere.

What are we concerned about:

- 4.2.12 Although we are actively recruiting into the neighbourhood function- the current staffing levels do remain a challenge.

What are we doing about it?

- 4.2.13 Actively recruiting into the neighbourhood function and ensuring that the teams have a real focus on the issues that create the most harm and impact on our communities.

### **4.3 Visibility and Engagement with the Public**

- 4.3.1 We continue to seek feedback from the community and what their priorities are, and this continues to feed the activity of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams. These priorities include:

#### **4.4 Rotherham North**

- 4.4.1 Nuisance Youths and ASB
- 4.4.2 The team produced a multi-agency Problem solving plan to focus on this issue and ensure that the community felt safe within Swinton precinct.
- 4.4.3 At the end of the partnership response a QR survey was conducted to gauge the perception around the original issue.
- 4.4.4 Sustained interaction and intervention with the builders at the development and staff within the precinct to ensure that the issue does not re-emerge.
- 4.4.5 Continued monitoring of any incidents in case issues re-emerge.

#### **4.5 Rotherham South**

- 4.5.1 Residential Burglary
- 4.5.2 Multiple operations and Problem-Solving activity to target this issue within highlighted areas.
- 4.5.3 POP work is ongoing in relation to an increase in offences in the Thurcroft area with links to a nominal that is known.
- 4.5.4 Directed patrols have been conducted in conjunction with officers from the Special Constabulary at key identified times and days.
- 4.5.5 Engagement has increased in the area to offer reassurance to the community and to allow for crime prevention items to be distributed.

4.5.6 Disruption tactics used including seeking prosecution for driving offences against key identified nominal.

4.5.7 Exploration of partnership housing powers ongoing to further disrupt the criminality.

#### **4.6 Rotherham Central**

4.6.1 Speeding and Road Safety

4.6.2 Recent analysis has been conducted to identify any roads or localities that re identified as where the most offences or collisions take place.

4.6.3 Established better links to our Road Policing Group colleagues to ensure a joined-up approach to ensuring safer roads.

4.6.4 Operation 'Slow Downs' conducted throughout the borough to ensure high visibility deterrence from speeding at key locations.

4.6.5 Safety Camera Partnership deployments to our roads within the borough.

4.6.6 Rollout of a QR survey at identified locations to understand perception of the safety of our roads within the areas.

### **5. ENGAGEMENT**

**5.1** Engagement remains a priority and we are exploring different ways of engaging with our communities- including the further rollout of QR surveys to ask the public their perception of an issue.

5.1.1 We are aware that some communities do not engage with us in such a way and prefer to speak to officers' face to face- so we have continued to conduct walkarounds the town centre to engage with those that visit the town and surrounding area. This also allows local businesses a key opportunity to engage with the partnership.

5.1.2 This is reflected in other areas where the policing teams conduct engagement walkarounds a set area in conjunction with partner agencies and elected members to engage directly with the community.

5.1.3 Due to feedback received by a few local residents within one such area-we have recently conducted a door-to-door partnership community survey on streets identified as suffering from ASB- this allows us to speak directly to the local residents whilst also confirming and reassuring that we are listening to their concerns- and will feed directly into the problem-solving plan being developed for the area.

5.1.4 This feedback by survey or verbal communication allows us to then understand what the public feel the issues affecting their communities are and use this to prioritise our ongoing work and focus.

5.1.5 An example of this relates to the problem-solving work that has been conducted within the Dinnington area where the community raised concerns with police and partners around the conduct of some local youths near to a local supermarket- this feedback

triggered a review of incidents by partnership agencies and the creation of a POP<sup>3</sup> to target the issue.

- 5.1.6 We also continually seek to improve our ways of feeding back to the community the work that the teams have been completing- with the recent use of QR codes at key locations to update on the activity in the area, and a close link with our corporate communications department to look at the best ways of reaching the most people.
- 5.1.7 We use our social media platforms and well-established community meetings to feedback to the public the work that has been completed and ongoing areas of focus.
- 5.1.8 We used the ‘You Said, We Did’ format for our recent QR code to feedback to the community within the Interchange in Central area.
- 5.1.9 We also used multiple ways- including social media and local meetings, of feeding back to our communities of Kiveton who had raised issues around the use of Off Road Bikes and the subsequent damage that the activity caused- this was adopted as a problem solving plan and upon the completion of activity fed directly back to the community who received it positively and provided the team good feedback in relation to the response.
- 5.1.10 The confidence in the service we provide within Rotherham largely follows the force trend in this area:



What is working well?

- 5.1.11 The reintroduction of our district engagement meeting to discuss what has worked in each of the areas, the feedback given and what we need to improve.

What are we concerned about?

- 5.1.12 The recent reduction in PCSO numbers will undoubtedly have an impact on our ability to maintain all current engagement forums.

What are we doing about it?

- 5.1.13 Continue to review what works in each area, being mindful that not all communities which to engage with the Police in the same way and to target what works in each area to make sure we are able to reach as many people as possible.

<sup>3</sup> POP – Problem-oriented policing; normally via a problem-solving plan; an approach to tackling crime and disorder via targeted interventions.



## **6 DAYS OF ACTION**

### **6.1 Op Duxford**

6.1.1 Since the last PAB report there have been two further Operation Duxford's held within Rotherham.

6.1.2 The first one saw numerous policing operations taking place throughout the borough and created the following results:

- 12 arrests made for multiple offences.
- 7 x warrants executed.
- Speedwatch operations conducted throughout the borough, supported by safety camera partnership deployments.
- 5 x pop up engagement events.

6.1.3 This was followed by a further Operation Duxford within Rotherham - which focussed on the themes of Vulnerability and Modern-Day Slavery.

6.1.4 The activity throughout the day was incredibly positive and included:

- 14 arrests being made for offences including rape, assault, and production of drugs.
- 4 search warrants being executed.
- 6 car washes visited under 'Operation Bubbles' and 6 people being arrested for immigration offences.
- 10 vulnerable people being safe guarded amid concerns over exploitation.
- 120 cannabis plants recovered.
- 12 intelligence reports submitted.
- 16 stop searches completed.
- 165 vehicle speed checks completed in Road Safety Speed Watch
- 7 vehicles seized.
- 8 Domestic Violence Protection Order Visits completed.

#### What is working well:

6.1.5 The partnership approach to Duxford to ensure full wraparound of the issues being targeted.

#### What are we concerned about:

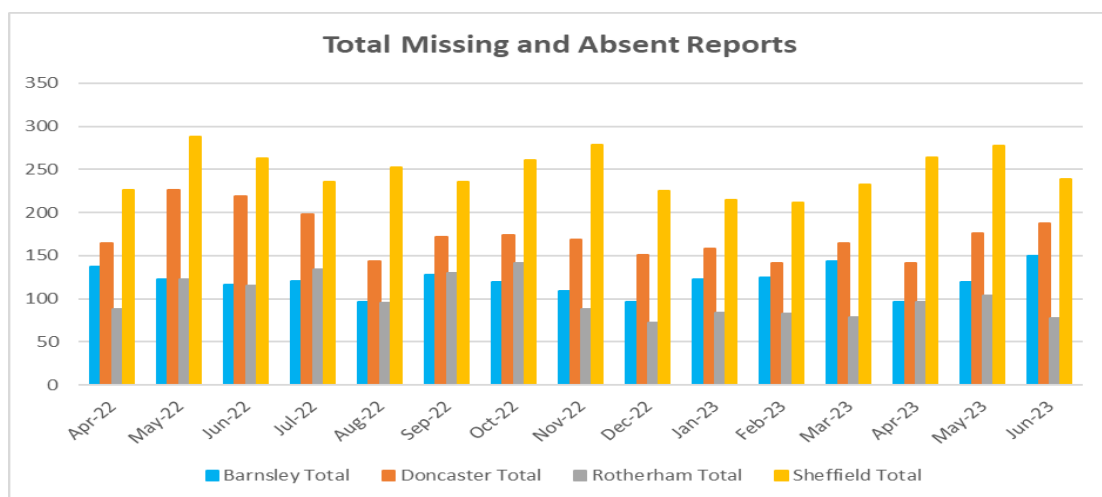
6.1.6 Ensuring we continue to have full buy in from all key parties to make these targeted days of action of the most benefit.

#### What are we doing about it:

6.1.7 Continue to ensure that these are planned with internal and external partners are brought in at the earliest possible stage.

## 7 SAFEGUARDING

- 7.1.1 We now have three dedicated Missing from Home (MFH) Officers, and this enables them to really engage with our repeat MFHs and those that present the highest risk of coming to harm.
- 7.1.2 Our MFH team review all repeat and HR MFHs on a weekly basis to identify any gaps in intervention and discuss any actions that could assist.
- 7.1.3 The team actively visit repeat locations to build up trust between them and our regular MFHs which has already shown a reduction in number of repeat MFHs within Rotherham and aids in the gathering of information and intelligence on the occasions where they do continue to go missing.
- 7.1.4 This work has led to a reduction in the number of repeat missing episodes and an overall reduction in the number of missing reports.



- 7.1.5 Rotherham also continue to explore all available powers to deal with offenders and to protect our victims from coming to harm- with Rotherham having the highest number of injunction warning letters within force.
- 7.1.6 Civil and Ancillary orders are a consideration for our teams whenever they are dealing with a long-term issue or vulnerability- and this forms part of the partnership response to it. We also have structures in place to ensure that those orders that have been led on by council are captured on police systems so any breaches can be dealt with promptly and appropriately.

## 7.2 Mental Health

- 7.2.1 Strong links exist between our teams and mental health services- and having the Mental Health liaison SPOC at sergeant level continues to be beneficial.
- 7.2.2 Work has been underway for SYP students to work with them for the day to understand the processes around mental health detentions and capacity assessments as well as getting inputs from consultant Psychiatrists.

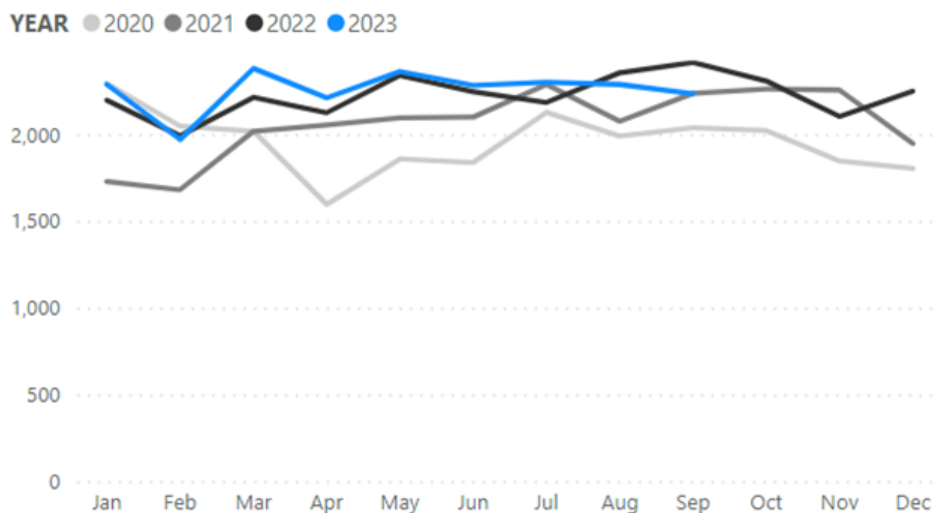
7.2.3 It is a two-way collaboration which sees RDaSH staff coming to us to understand each services demand. The implementation of this has been well received and will continue.

### 7.3 Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

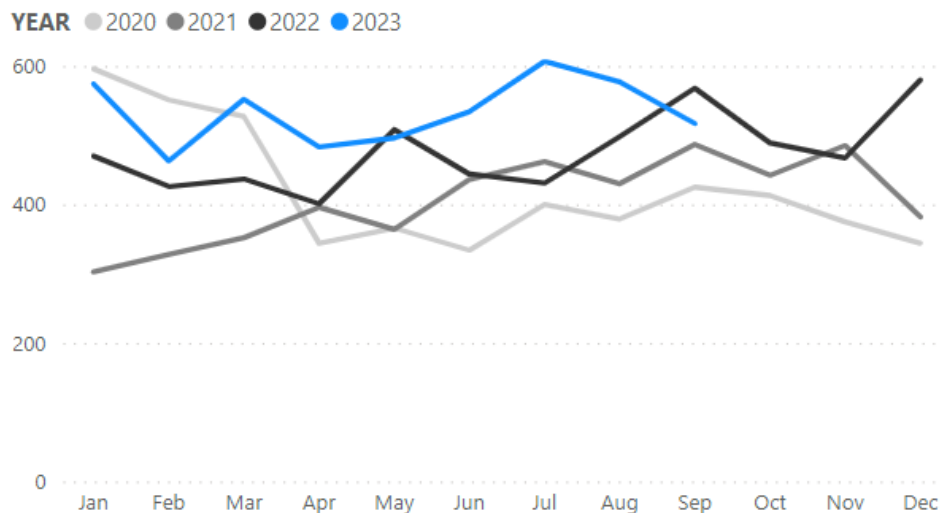
- 7.3.1 This continues to be an area that the Neighbourhood teams actively promote.
- 7.3.2 The teams continue to use the QR code embedded in our leaflets to encourage our communities to sign into the web page and highlight any areas where they feel most vulnerable.
- 7.3.3 Local communities assist in promoting the campaign by wearing the VAWG t-shirts whilst engaging in community events and allowing engagement stalls in key locations where neighbourhood colleagues promote the campaign.
- 7.3.4 VAWG offenders also feature on the district THRIVE to ensure that all portfolios within district are aware of any nominals that potentially pose the most risk of harm and are actively managed to ensure.

## 8. CRIME

### 8.1 All Crime



8.1.1 Recorded crime in Rotherham has increased by 2% in Q1 and Q2 2023/24 compared to the same periods the year before. As the graph above shows this is largely the result of an increased spike in crime during Q1 above last year's levels which has now reduced in Q2 below the previous year. Whilst this trend is slightly above the Force average position Rotherham still compares favourably for overall crime rates with 43.0 crimes per 1000 people, the lowest in the Force, against the Force average of 49.3.



8.1.1 In order to tackle some of these rises, which we started to see in Q3 last year, we have established a Neighbourhood Crime Team (NCT), specially dedicated to tackling persistent and habitual offenders of crimes such as residential burglary, robbery, and theft from person. The team work closely with our Neighbourhood policing teams to ensure they are aware of who the prolific individuals are within their areas and who is currently wanted in connection with offences that have been committed.

8.1.2 Since its implementation, the team have had some significant successes; processing over 100 suspects for these offences. Their dedicated approach allows them to identify individuals that are committing these crimes in Rotherham but living elsewhere. A recent example of this approach saw an individual linked to organised criminality in Sheffield arrested and charged with 14 offences, including 8 burglaries.

8.1.3 This approach has seen our 'action taken' rate increase from 13% to 17% for burglary, theft, and robbery offences. As the NCT continues to develop we expect this action taken rate to continue to increase as the teams dedicated focus on these offences continues.

## 8.2 Crime Key Points

### What is working well:

8.2.1 Rotherham continues to understand its trends in crime and proactively respond to any changes in crime type or demand within the District. Whilst we have seen increases the crime rate per 1000 population remains below the Force average.

8.2.2 The formation of the NCT has seen positive impacts on action taken rates for acquisitive crime. Their joint working with local NPTs means that this positive impact can be sustained and supported by a problem-solving approach.

### What are we concerned about:

8.2.3 Any increase in crime is something that will impact on our communities and something we will look to proactively respond to with our partners. The impact of crime increases on our communities means that it will remain a priority.

### What are we doing about it:

8.2.4 Our NPTs continue to utilise a problem-solving approach in our hotspot communities to reduce crime in the long-term. Our establishment of the NCT has had positive results in terms of outcomes and, as prolific offenders are imprisoned, will positively impact our crime rates. We continue to work in partnership through the Violence Reduction Unit and Community Safety Partnership to respond as a partnership to reduce the impact of crime on our communities.

### **8.3 Organised Crime**

8.3.1 There are currently twelve organised crime groups (OCG's) mapped across Rotherham District. The primary activity of 10 of these groups is drug supply, either locally or through County Lines, and for the other 2 it is organised acquisitive crime.

8.3.2 In order to tackle these organised crime groups we work in partnership across our dedicated Operation Fortify team, our Neighbourhood Teams and partnership colleagues in RMBC, Probation, Immigration, and other agencies. This ensures that the agency that is best placed to disrupt the OCG does so. This approach has seen an increase in our partnership disruptions across the first two quarters of the year compared to the previous year; going from 15 to 18. We have also seen police disruptions improve from 21 to 24. This is a 17% increase in our targeted disruption of organised crime within Rotherham.

8.3.3 In Q4 of last year and the start of Q1 this year we saw an increase in firearms activity within Rotherham. This is unusual for the District and resulted in a specific response being set up. This response worked to develop intelligence about those in possession of firearms and proactively arrest, charge, and remand them. In Q1 and Q2 this year that has resulted in 16 individuals being charged and remanded in relation to firearms offences in Rotherham

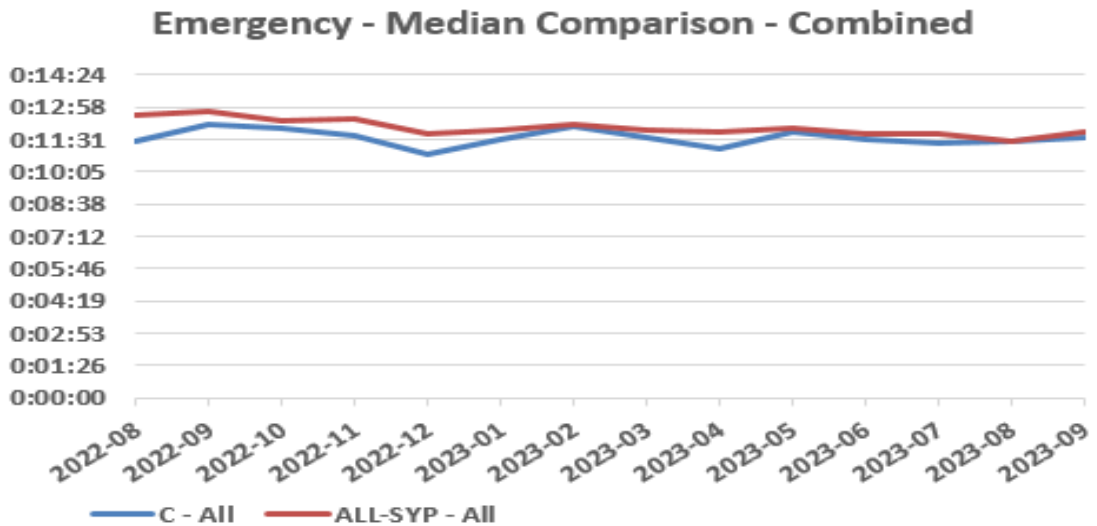
8.3.4 Some the individuals that are being charged and remanded are now going through the court system and the work of our investigative and intelligence teams in South Yorkshire is having a positive impact at court. One recent example is an individual by the name of Richard Riley who was involved in armed criminality in Rotherham. He was found guilty in September of possessing firearms and ammunition and sentenced to 12 years.

## **9. TREATING PEOPLE FAIRLY**

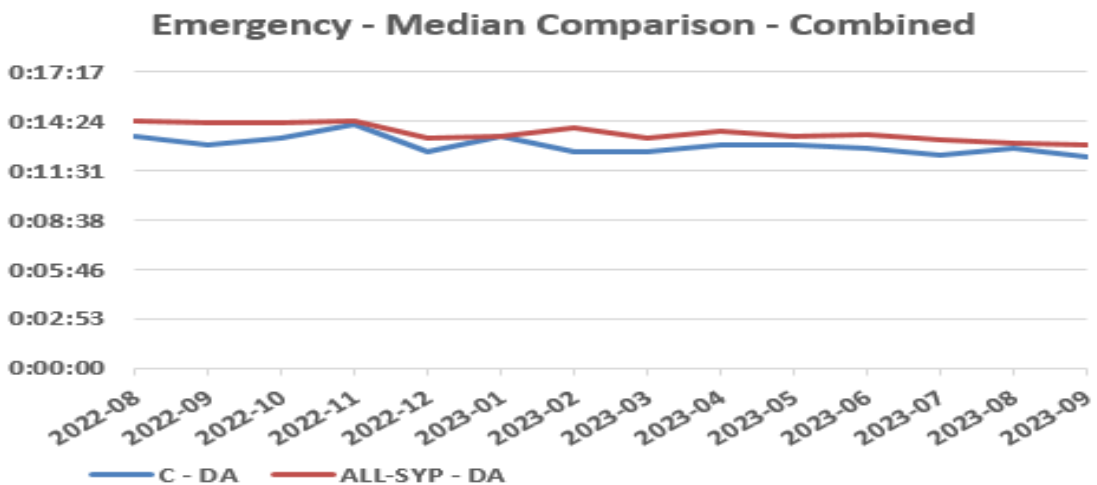
### **9.1 Responding to calls for service.**

#### What is working well:

9.1.1 Emergency response times in Rotherham remain stable over the previous period, with overall force performance good and Rotherham performing the best of the four districts. The target time for responding to Emergency calls is 15 minutes from receiving the call into our Force Control room to officers being on scene. Our median response time is substantially lower than the required time fluctuating between 11 and 12 minutes.

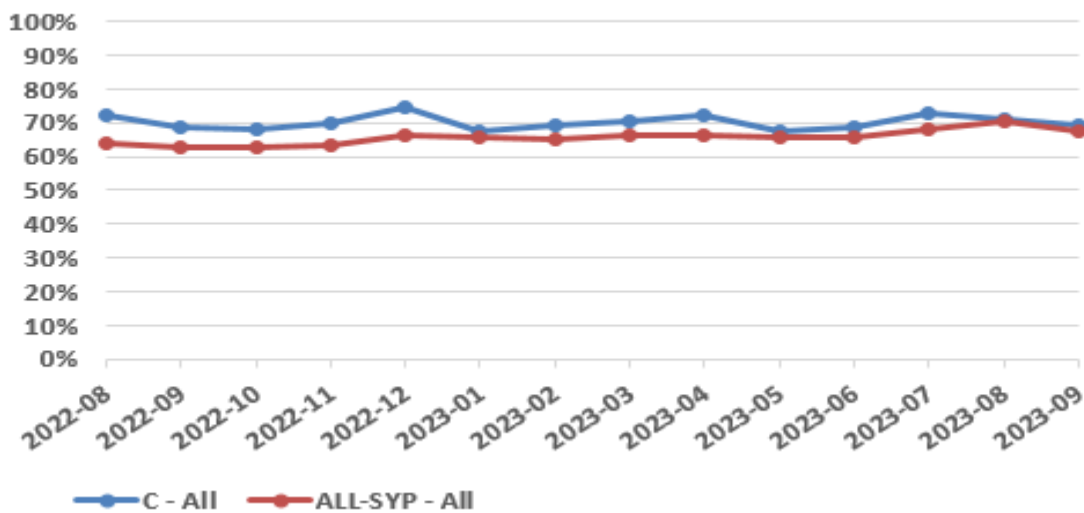


9.1.2 Domestic Abuse is recognised as a priority for the force and Rotherham. Our response to these incidents has continued to improve over the previous 12 months.



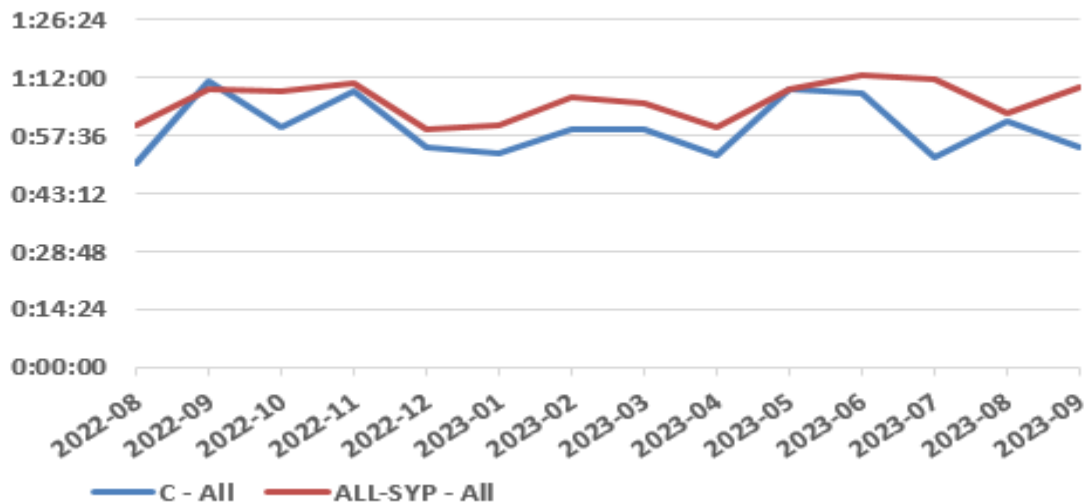
9.1.3 The chart below shows data that shows the percentage of incidents that have been serviced within the 15-minute target time. This shows Rotherham have a slight decrease in target time hit from 74% in December 2022 to 67% in September 2023. This is an area of focus for Rotherham and the force to improve upon. The reasons for the slight decline are around staffing challenges faced by all departments, the highly motivated new officers being less experienced on response shifts and therefore taking longer to resolve incidents and finally a move towards quality of service given when at incidents.

### Emergency - AWT Comparison - Combined

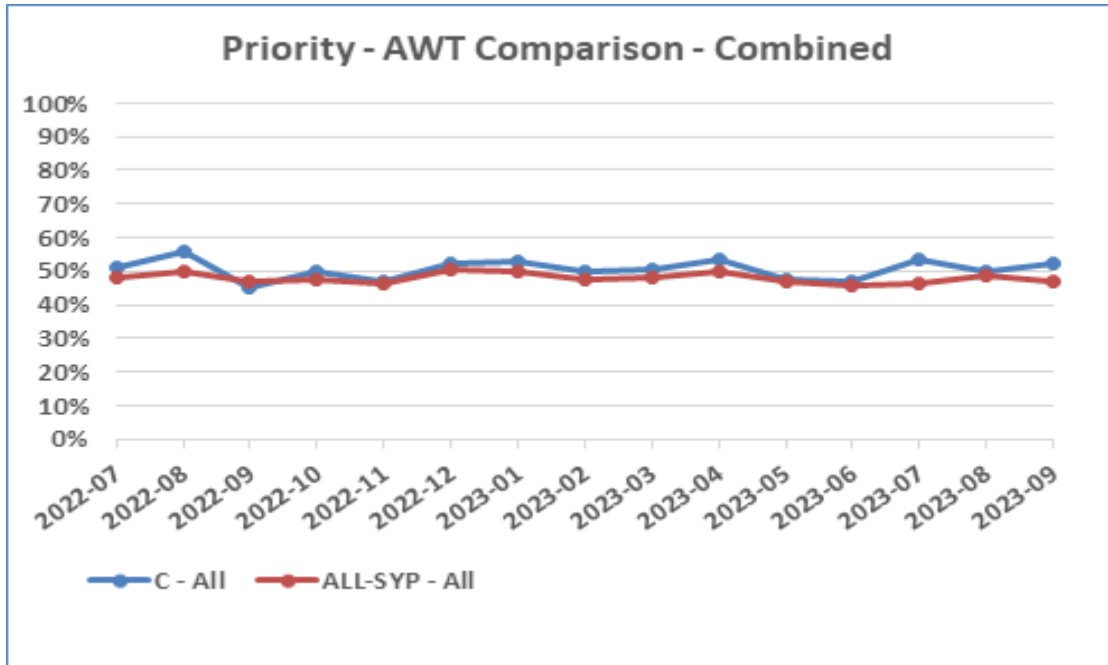


9.1.4 With regards to priority incidents, this grading determines a response within 1 hour from the caller contacting the Police. The graph below shows that the performance for Rotherham has remained largely stable with a slight spike in May, the force again has remained largely stable but has an overall higher service time than Rotherham.

### Priority - Median Comparison - Combined



9.1.5 The chart below, demonstrates that both Rotherham and the force overall need to continue to improve how many people receive Police service within 1 hour, with only 52% of incidents attended within the target time against a force average of 47%. There are several initiatives ongoing to ensure that the right people get the right service quickly. This includes an innovative use of video conferencing to enable officers to speak to people and provide a service remotely as well as initiatives such as 'right care right person' (RCRP) which allows people to receive the right support from the right agency and allows Police to concentrate on policing matters.



What are we concerned about:

- 9.1.6 Whilst the uplift programme is nearing completion, the lead time for officers is significant, 3 years to passing their qualification and confirmed in post. The first cohort of officers has recently completed their degree and have been posted in their departments, the majority on response teams.
- 9.1.7 This has allowed officers to leave response teams and fill other areas of the district that are also running with significant vacancies such as Investigations and Neighbourhood Policing. I anticipate that staffing will remain a challenge for the next 6-8 months whilst students continue to conclude their programmes and are placed on teams and all other roles are staffed up accordingly. The future is clearly bright and positive with a significant uplift in our capacity on the horizon that will allow us to fulfil our commitment to our communities going forward.

What are we doing about it:

- 9.1.8 Going forward we will ensure that our resources are placed in the right areas, ensuring that our response teams are sufficiently staffed, sufficiently trained and skilled. We continue to utilise projects such as RCRP to manage demand coming into Rotherham as well as embrace innovative technology such as remote victim contact.

## 9.2 Impact of Right care, Right Person

- 9.2.1 Right Care Right Person is an initiative to ensure that members of the public receive the right care from the right agency to address their needs and vulnerabilities. Over the last decade, policing has seen a significant increase in demand for non-crime related incidents. We have often deployed to these as a service of last resource with the staff lacking the knowledge or powers to deal with the issues they encounter or provide the right ongoing support for the individual. These incidents are often protracted and not quick to resolve and therefore consume a large amount of officer capacity and time.



- 9.2.2 RCRP has been split into three phases. Phase 1 was the approach to requests for welfare checks from other agencies and private individuals. The Police have no legal duty to conduct welfare checks or have any additional powers over other agencies unless there is an imminent or ongoing threat to life. This was implemented in March 2023 following a programme of consultation with our partners from other agencies as well as training for our contact centre staff.
- 9.2.3 Phase 2 of the initiative went live in July 2023, which focuses upon walkouts from healthcare facilities. There is ongoing consultation between Police and our partners to ensure that people are receiving care from the right agencies.
- 9.2.4 The effect this has had on Police time is significant. In the previous 6 months there has been 4722 concern for safety incidents in Rotherham. This includes concerns for children, suicidal persons, and other areas of non-crime and non ASB related demand. RCRP was applied to 540 incidents, meaning Police did not attend 11% of these incidents. As a total of all incidents reported, this represents almost a 1.5% decrease in demand. It is difficult to quantify the amount of time saved as each incident is different, but it is significant. Further implementation over following months will continue to see Police involvement in non-crime related incidents reduce and allow officers to concentrate on other areas of business such as crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 9.2.5 We continue to engage with our partners to ensure that vulnerable people are still receiving treatment but from the right agencies and concerns from all are heard and worked through.

## 10. RESOURCES

### 10.1 Distribution of Uplift at District

- 10.1.1 The above table shows the current uplift that have been confirmed in rank in Rotherham and where they have been distributed.

Intake	Confirmed	Number	Final posting
PCDA 1/20	Sep-23	8	All response
DHEP 1/20	Oct-22	10	2 Inv / 8 Response
DHEP 1/21	Feb-22	5	2 Inv / 3 Response
DHEP 2/21	Jul-23	4	All response
DHEP 3/21	Sep-23	6	3 Inv / 3 Response
DHEP 4/21	Oct-23	6	2 NPT / 4 Response
		Total 39	

- 10.1.2 This uplift has allowed other members of response teams to join other department such as Neighbourhood Policing, become a trainee investigator or work within a central department providing specialist policing capabilities.
- 10.1.3 Alongside the Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship and Degree Holder Employment Programme are several routes of entry that compliment these entry points. These are the Detective Now schemes, Police Now Scheme, and the Detective DHEP scheme.
- 10.1.4 From early next year as cohorts begin to complete their programmes the operational areas of Policing will begin to see growth. Currently the small number of officers who have completed the programme are filling vacancies, retirements or allowing movement of other staff as noted above. When this equilibrium is broken the public will see an increase in the teams who respond to incidents in an emergency, the neighbourhood teams serving their communities and the investigation teams who investigate serious complex crime. They will see an improvement in service in terms of timeliness of service as well as an improvement in the speed and conclusion of investigations. It will allow more officers to be dedicated to problem solving local problems and see an increase in the investment in local policing and an increase in visibility. Overall, there will be an increase in people brought to justice and a decrease in crimes being committed and ASB.
- 10.1.5 Students can currently express a preference for their career pathway between Response, Investigations or Neighbourhood Policing. Initial intakes were offered a choice of Investigations or response. From DHEP 04/21 onwards they have been offered the choice of Response or Neighbourhood Policing with those with an interest in becoming an investigator needing to apply through the Trainee Investigator programme when confirmed in rank.
- 10.1.6 These preferences are accommodated wherever possible but final postings are based on operational needs.

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

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 2023**

## **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 an updated summary of some of the key work being undertaken in Tackling Crime and ASB, in delivering the Police and Crime Plan. This report will provide evidence of approach and delivery within the following areas.

- Resource and demand
- Force control room and public access to South Yorkshire Police
- Neighbourhood Crime
- Retail Crime
- Dangerous Dogs
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Community Trigger
- Most Serious Violence
- Financial Investigation, disruption and POCA seizures
- Offender Management

### **4 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) formally inspected the force in 2021/22 under the new intelligence-led continuous assessment approach, rather than the annual PEEL assessment used in previous years. Forces are now assessed against the characteristics of good performance set out in the PEEL Assessment Framework 2021/22. The force was graded as follows.

4.2 The force was awarded ‘Outstanding’ for preventing crime and ‘Good’ for treatment of the public. Responding to the public is graded ‘Adequate’ highlighting some areas for improvement for the force in relation to the time taken to respond to incidents.

Outstanding	Good	Adequate	Requires improvement	Inadequate
Preventing crime	Recording data about crime	Responding to the public		
Protecting vulnerable people	Investigating crime			
Good use of resources	Treatment of the public			
	Managing offenders			
	Developing a positive workplace			

4.3 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.

## 5 **RESOURCE & DEMAND**

### **Incident demand**

5.1 In the latest quarter (Jul-Sep 23) a total of 99,177 incidents were recorded, this is slightly higher (+1 per cent) compared to the same period last year and there were only small changes for the main incident categories. The longer term trend remains an increasing one, with a 7 per cent increase on the same quarter in pre-Covid 2019. This increase is driven by a 33 per cent rise in crime incidents and a 23 per cent increase in administration incidents, with reductions evident for anti-social behaviour (-16 per cent) and transport incidents (-9 per cent).

5.2 The volume of public safety and welfare incidents has remained relatively stable each year from 2019, however they remain very high in volume accounting for nearly half of all recorded incidents (48 per cent in the latest quarter). This category includes a wide range of reports made to the police including concern for safety, suspicious circumstances, missing persons, domestic incidents and abandoned calls.

5.3 Over the last 12 months (to Sep-23) there has been a 4 per cent increase in total incidents, breaking down into administration (+5 per cent), anti-social behaviour (-0 per cent), crime (+3 per cent), public safety and welfare (+6 per cent) and transport (-4 per cent).

## Crime Volume and Trends

- 5.4 In the latest quarter (Jul-Sep 23) a total of 39,400 crimes were recorded, this is a 4 per cent reduction on the previous quarter, but a 3 per cent increase on the same period last year. Comparatively high levels of shoplifting and business robbery were recorded, indicative of their upward trend, with trafficking of drugs offences (often linked to proactive police activity) also high.
- 5.5 For the last 12 months as a whole (to Sep-23) there was a 1 per cent increase on the previous 12 months. Notable increases for aggravated vehicle taking, business robbery, shoplifting and trafficking of drugs are noted. Conversely, significant reductions are evident for arson, bicycle theft, homicide and theft from vehicle.
- 5.6 In comparison to the last equivalent period prior to Covid (Oct 18 -Sep 19) there has been a 9 per cent increase in total recorded crime. A shift in the type of vehicle crime offending being committed is clearly highlighted, with a large reduction in theft from vehicle and a large increase in theft of vehicle. In contrast to the overall picture the level of recorded burglary has not yet returned to pre-Covid levels with residential burglary reducing by 15 per cent and business and commercial burglary by 40 per cent.

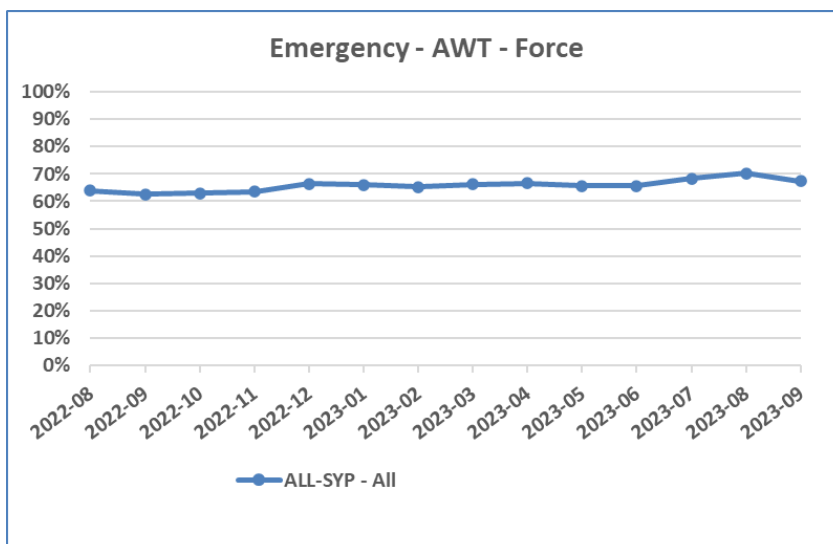
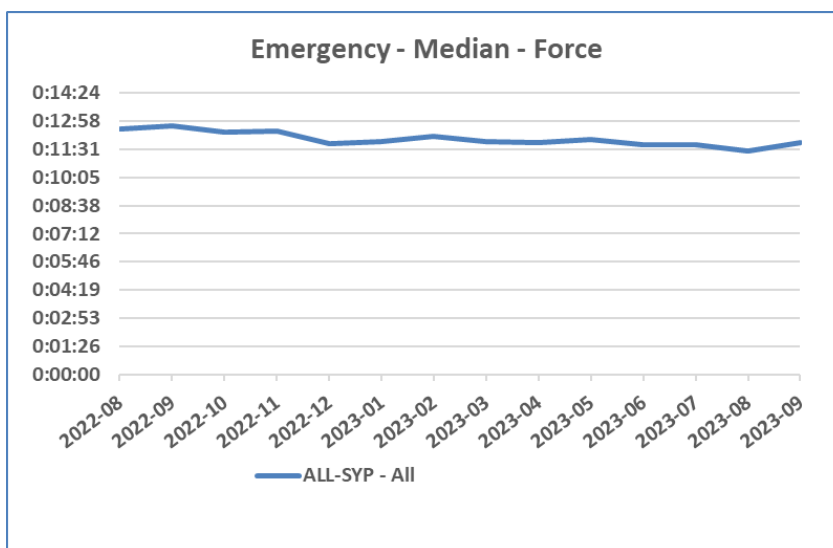
CRIME CATEGORY	Oct 21- Sep 22	Oct 22- Sep 23	Change	% Change
AGGRAVATED VEHICLE TAKING	127	177	50	39%
ARSON	1248	1037	-211	-17%
BICYCLE THEFT	1091	892	-199	-18%
BURGLARY BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY	2819	2802	-17	-1%
BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL	8688	8918	230	3%
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	17199	15832	-1367	-8%
DEATH SERIOUS INJ BY ILLEGAL DRIVING	19	4	-15	-79%
HOMICIDE	25	16	-9	-36%
INTERFERING WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE	2285	2435	150	7%
MISC CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	5007	5103	96	2%
OTHER OFFENCES PUBLIC ORDER	1995	2069	74	4%
OTHER SEXUAL OFFENCES	2991	2928	-63	-2%
OTHER THEFT	11715	11737	22	0%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	2344	2485	141	6%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS	1852	2101	249	13%
PUBLIC FEAR, ALARM OR DISTRESS	13879	13181	-698	-5%
RACE OR RELIGIOUS AGG PUBLIC FEAR	1299	1215	-84	-6%
RAPE	1567	1597	30	2%
ROBBERY OF BUSINESS PROPERTY	150	363	213	142%
ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY	1693	1695	2	0%
SHOPLIFTING	8895	12724	3829	43%
STALKING AND HARASSMENT	20249	20267	18	0%
THEFT FROM A VEHICLE	5337	4905	-432	-8%
THEFT FROM THE PERSON	1148	1089	-59	-5%
THEFT OR UNAUTH TAKING OF A MOTOR VEH	4919	5221	302	6%
TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS	1486	2088	602	41%
VIOLENCE WITH INJURY	16428	16482	54	0%
VIOLENCE WITHOUT INJURY	21163	19838	-1325	-6%
VIOLENT DISORDER	14	21	7	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>157632</b>	<b>159222</b>	<b>1590</b>	<b>1%</b>

Oct 18- Sep 19	Oct 22- Sep 23	Change	% Change
115	177	62	54%
1025	1037	12	1%
1082	892	-190	-18%
4646	2802	-1844	-40%
10552	8918	-1634	-15%
16336	15832	-504	-3%
42	4	-38	-90%
14	16	2	14%
2224	2435	211	9%
4193	5103	910	22%
1936	2069	133	7%
2640	2928	288	11%
13297	11737	-1560	-12%
2169	2485	316	15%
1642	2101	459	28%
10090	13181	3091	31%
817	1215	398	49%
1557	1597	40	3%
224	363	139	62%
1503	1695	192	13%
9988	12724	2736	27%
16747	20267	3520	21%
7943	4905	-3038	-38%
1801	1089	-712	-40%
3258	5221	1963	60%
1061	2088	1027	97%
14633	16482	1849	13%
14192	19838	5646	40%
15	21	6	40%
<b>145742</b>	<b>159222</b>	<b>13480</b>	<b>9%</b>

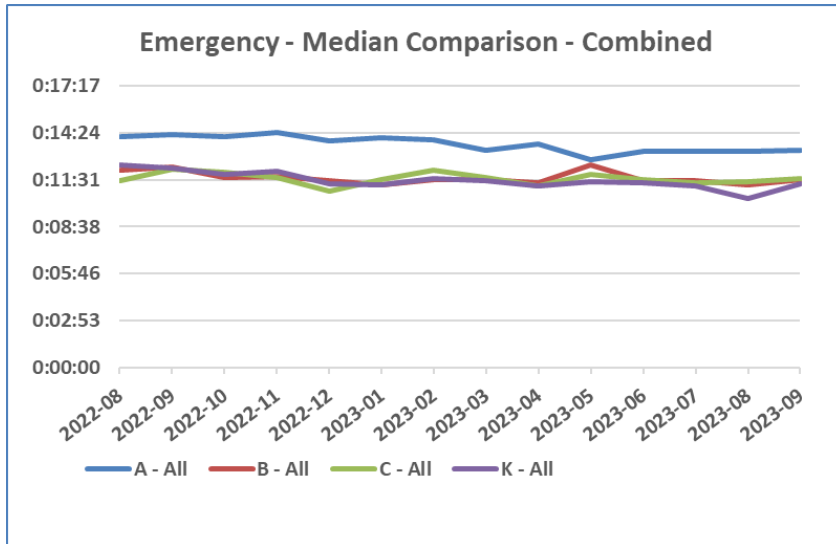
## 6 FCR AND PUBLIC ACCESS TO SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

### Response Times

- 6.1 The Force Control Room is responsible for managing the active incident queues on behalf of the policing districts. This includes ensuring every effort is made to identify, allocate and show a police resource at scene within the published time scales for both Emergency and Priority graded incidents. The force aims to attend Emergency incidents within 15 minutes and Priority incidents within one hour.
- 6.2 The charts below show the median average response time and percentage of incidents attended within 15 minutes for Emergency incidents, which are the incidents associated with the highest risk and / or where there is a crime in progress or offender present.



- 6.3 As a median average, the force responds to Emergency incidents well within the 15 minutes timeframe. However, as a percentage of overall Emergency incidents, around 30 per cent are not attended within this target.

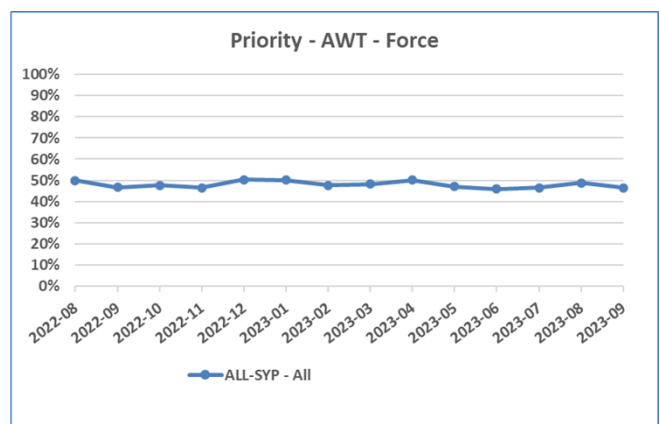
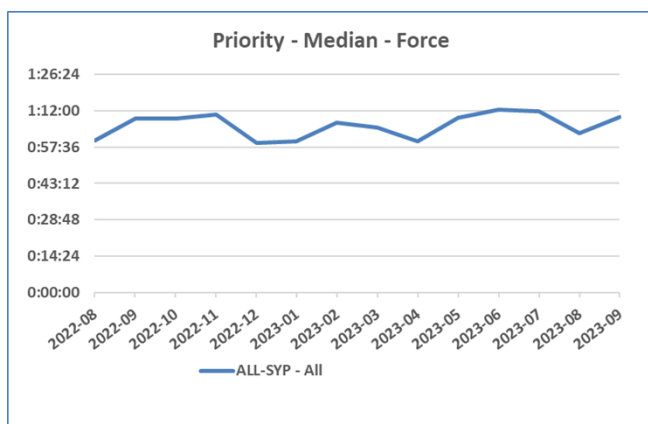


6.4 The chart above illustrates the challenges faced by Doncaster district (A). The average response time is within the 15 minutes target and a faster average response time is evident over the last few months. However, it is an outlier when compared to the other districts. The time taken to arrive at the incident after a resource has been resolved accounts for most of the variation in Emergency response times. Doncaster covers a large geographic area with some parts of the district a significant distance from a response policing base.

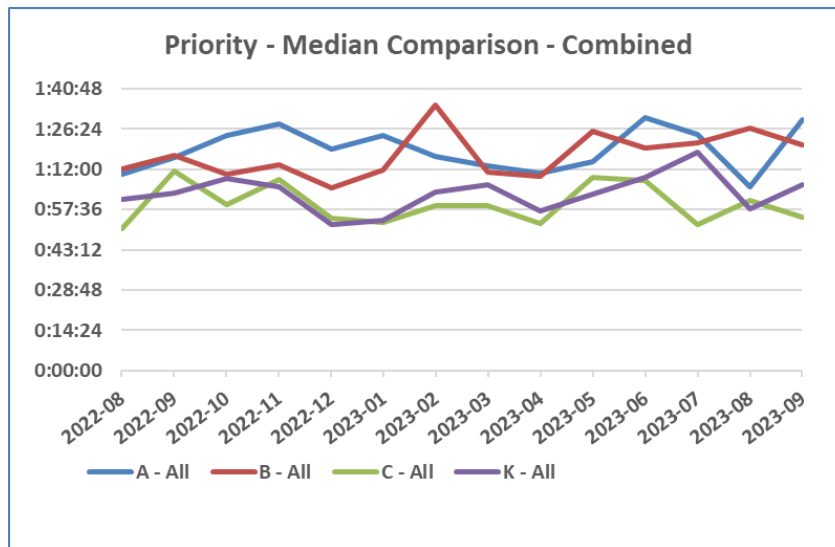
6.5 Overall, the trajectory of both the force average response time and the percentage attended for Emergency incidents is positive over the past 12 months. Further work is underway within the FCR to ensure incidents are graded appropriately, through the Quality Assurance Thematic Testing (QATT) process, which takes a deep dive into the quality of the service provided to the public by Call Resolution Officers and Dispatch Operators.

6.6 Some of the incidents shown as not attended within target will be “upgrades” where an existing Priority incident is changed to an Emergency when new information is received. This will automatically “fail” at 15 minutes from the time of the original call, not when the new information was received. Hence, the actual percentage of Emergencies attended is likely to be higher than displayed in the graph – the current system reporting does not allow this to be taken into account. However, this will not show in the median average time for attendance as it will be an ‘outlier’.

6.7 The below charts show the same information but for Priority graded incidents.



6.8 The average response time to Priority graded incidents currently sits around 1 hour 10 minutes, which is outside the target time of one hour. The percentage of incidents attended within the one hour is also currently less than 50 per cent.



6.9 There are some differences between the four districts in terms of average response times to Priorities, although all have a relatively stable trend subject to a degree of individual month variation. For this grade of incident it is the time taken to find a suitable resource to deploy which accounts for the majority of the overall response time, this in turn is influenced by the volume and complexity of demand balanced against available resource.

6.10 The force has work to do to improve response times for both Emergencies and Priorities, but can be relatively confident that those incidents with the highest risk are resourced and attended within or close to the target response time. However, there is some way to go to meet the target time of one hour for Priority graded incidents. There are number of initiatives, process improvements and technological changes that are either planned or in progress within the FCR to support improvements to response times, alongside the policing districts.

**Demand Resolution Team.**

6.11 A small team of police officers within the FCR work seven days a week, focusing on incidents on the active queues across all districts that are suitable for dealing with without the requirement to deploy an officer within one hour. This may result in an immediate resolution to the incident or an initial desktop investigation before collating a package for an allocated officer to continue. The team is currently at 50 per cent strength of the 12 approved posts and is having a significant impact upon demand passed to response teams.

**Rapid Video Response.**

6.12 Use of GoodSam technology allows officers to deal with certain incidents of Domestic Abuse by video call, subject to strict risk assessment criteria. This allows the quicker resolution of the incident and provides a platform to secure evidence that can be used in court. The use of this process has been found to secure better engagement of victims and lead to positive justice outcomes, with some good



examples already in South Yorkshire. Although this has a positive impact in terms of demand reduction for response teams, those incidents dealt with by Rapid Video Response (RVR) do not, in themselves, impact response times as they are classed as Resolve Without Deployment (RWD).

### **Realignment of Force Incident Managers (FIMs).**

- 6.13 The force has both uplifted the number of FIMs and realigned the working patterns to enable a stronger and closer working relationship with dispatch teams. This will commence mid-October and provide some clear support in identifying, prioritising and deploying resources to incidents.

### **FCR Daily Management Meeting (DMM)**

- 6.14 The daily management meeting within the FCR reviews staffing across both the FCR function and district response teams in order to ensure active queues are understood and serviced. Where risk is identified and resources do not appear sufficient to meet demand, this is escalated to Force DMM. The FCR DMM also directs where the demand resolution officers will focus and reviews the oldest incident at each of our four districts.

### **Failure Demand**

- 6.15 The FCR is working with force analysts to understand failure demand within the Dispatch / Response area of policing. This has already provided some data that suggests around 22 per cent of Priority graded incidents are not resolved upon first deployment of an officer. Clearly, this absorbs a significant amount of response officer time that could be spent responding to other incidents and improving the opportunity to meet our response time aims. Work is in progress to understand how this data can be used to drive this failure demand down.

### **Right Care Right Person (RCRP)**

- 6.16 The FCR continues to lead the force initiative to ensure the right agency / organisation responds to individuals in need of health or mental health care, which is rarely the police. The initiative is rolling out in phases, with phase one having been in place since 20<sup>th</sup> March, phase two 24<sup>th</sup> July and phase 3 about to launch in October, taking a whole partnership approach. It ensures that the police respond to far fewer incidents where other agencies are better placed to respond and, vitally, frees up policing resources to respond to the key policing purpose of tackling crime. Under RCRP, the force is attending around 500 fewer incidents per month which are reported and are receiving approximately a further 600 fewer reported incidents per month.

### **Repeat Demand Callers**

- 6.17 The FCR has robust process to deal with those individuals who repeatedly call police without a genuine purpose, working closely with colleagues at districts to ensure engagement, intervention and ultimately enforcement where appropriate.
- 6.18 Future work will focus heavily on technological improvements, including the onboarding of Single Online Home, which is due to go live in March 2024. This will

improve the reporting process online for the public, ensure that reports are better routed to the right place and have an improved ability to redirect members of the public where police are not the right agency. It also has a partnership reporting option and link for the submission of intelligence. The FCR are also exploring options to improve reporting channels via social media, which national and local surveys indicate is a desired means of reporting for the public.

- 6.19 Work continues to improve the 101 service, including the exploration of additional options through the interactive voice response system and addressing the 22 per cent of calls that are, essentially failure demand with callers seeking an update for a crime or incident that has already been reported.
- 6.20 There is also a continued focus on improvements in the quality of service as well as that which can be measured statistically. Our QATT processes are now well embedded and providing a real insight both for FCR teams / staff and for force theme leads. The QATT reports weekly and information is used with performance meetings and informs the content of staff training days.

### **Recruitment**

- 6.21 The FCR operates a continuous programme of recruitment to ensure posts are filled and service to the public is maintained. The programme has set windows for recruitment, feeding in to 3 courses per year for dual operators (Call Resolution and Dispatch). The course can be flexed to take between 12 and 20 new recruits and to add an extra date, if required.
- 6.22 The FCR resourcing manager works closely with workforce planning and positive action colleagues to both plan the recruitment process, based upon projected vacancies, and to seek the best possible candidates for the roles.
- 6.23 Appointing staff on dual operator contracts provides a greater dynamism within the FCR and allows supervisors to match our resources to daily demand.
- 6.24 Attrition continues to be a concern, particularly amongst some of the newer recruits. The training of new Call Resolution Officers is a significant investment and further work is underway to ensure the role is completely understood by those applying and that the recruitment processes are fit for purpose. Exit interviews and surveys are undertaken in house and by People & Organisational Development (POD) for all leavers to identify and understand any workplace factors that may need addressing.
- 6.25 Wellbeing and wellness within the workplace is a major focus within the FCR with a number of initiatives in place and the building having undergone a significant refurbishment to improve the working environment. In recognition of some of the challenges police staff often face with career progression, the FCR has supplemented the force leadership programme with an internal pathway for those seeking to develop. Communication with staff is key and the FCR command team seeks to engage widely and regularly with the workforce, to provide key updates and be accessible for those wishing to feed back.
- 6.26 The last report referenced that the South Yorkshire Police FCR had been nominated within the category of Large Contact Centre of the Year in the UK National Contact Centre Awards, against the call centres of Allstate Northern Ireland, BGL Insurance,

Birmingham City Council, Chase, RAC, Sage and Simply Business. The awards took place in June 2023. Whilst the SYP FCR did not win, it was recognised the nomination was a great achievement in itself. SYP was the only control room to be nominated and the competitors were large private sector companies, the FCR presentation was well received.

## **7 NEIGHBOURHOOD CRIME**

- 7.1 Neighbourhood crime continues to be a priority for the force, with South Yorkshire having comparatively high crime rates in relation to most other areas of the country against a backdrop of the increase in cost of living.
- 7.2 The previous report referenced the embedding of dedicated neighbourhood crime teams across three districts. There is further work ongoing to review the remits and functions of these teams and ensure that each district offers a comparable service. This work is scheduled to report to the chief officer team in February 2024.
- 7.3 One focus will be the learning we are taking as an organisation from a refreshed approach in Doncaster focusing on home burglary. This initiative, Operation Castle, has been in operation since the beginning of March this year. Since that time the number of home burglaries being committed in comparison to the same period the year before has fallen by 6 per cent and there has also been an increase in the number of charges obtained.
- 7.4 Some of the practice Operation Castle has brought, relates to more focus and priority on the initial attendance to reports of home burglary, a greater understanding and joining of intelligence relating to persistent offenders and trends in reporting. This allows a proactive investigative approach to be taken and is proving successful in putting some of our most prolific perpetrators of home burglary in prison and thus supporting the trend in reduction of offences.
- 7.5 There remains continued focus on a refreshed 4P Plan to tackle neighbourhood crime. Key elements of this plan include the implementation of a new communications strategy for the coming year with a focus on year round awareness raising and prevention advice across the force for burglary, robbery and vehicle crime as opposed to the previous traditional messaging in line with seasonal campaigns such as dark nights.
- 7.6 There is further focus on reinvigorating our target hardening of hot spot areas through cocooning activity for burglaries and exploring opportunities such as the Park Mark Scheme to tackle vehicle crime.
- 7.7 Work is also underway to further improve SYP's investigative standards to these crime types through the development of a neighbourhood crime investigators handbook and working on a video which members of the public will be able to have access to at the point of reporting to support effective scene preservation, maximise forensic opportunity and offer additional prevention advice.
- 7.8 There remain a number of challenges, in particular to the availability of and access to specialist equipment and technology to be more proactive in tackling vehicle theft. This is something that is being looked at on a national level working closely with vehicle manufactures.

7.9 The organisation has seen some challenges around the recording of some instances of robbery in a business setting which is likely leading to a small over recording of this crime type where an offence of shoplifting was more appropriate. Nevertheless, retail crime has some real focus been brought to it as per the update in section 8 of this report.

## **Neighbourhood Crime volumes and outcomes**

7.10 In the last 12 months (to Sep-23), there have been 24,513 neighbourhood crime offences recorded, this is a slight increase of 284, or 1 per cent, on the previous 12 months. This is, however, a reduction of 10 per cent against the December 2019 baseline used by the Home Office within the National Crime and Policing Measures.

7.11 Residential Burglary offending has increased in the 12 month period by 224, or 3 per cent, with a monthly average volume of 744 offences. The percentage of 'action taken' outcomes applied in the force in the same 12-month period is 5 per cent, no change from the previous 12 months.

7.12 Vehicle crime has also seen a marginal increase of 1 per cent, equating to 116 offences. Theft From Motor Vehicle (TFMV) fell overall by 8 per cent but Theft Of Motor Vehicle (TOMV) rose by 7 per cent. Action taken outcomes were 2 per cent overall, with 1 per cent for TOMV and 3 per cent for TOMV.

7.13 Personal Robbery offences were consistent with the previous 12 months at 1,702 (+8 or +0%). Action taken outcome rates stood at 10 per cent.

7.14 There were 1,090 Theft from Person offences recorded, this is 6 per cent reduction on the previous year, with 2 per cent action taken outcomes.

## **8 RETAIL CRIME**

8.1 In line with the requirements of the Police and Crime Plan, the force has placed emphasis on retail crime and keeping retail workers safe. The force has 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.

8.2 The force response to retail and business crime is tailored across the county with a number of processes, local arrangements and plans in place. Much of this is established and evidenced good practice. For example, in Doncaster and 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. A recent National Business Crime Centre newsletter has showcased some of this work.

8.3 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, cyber crime, 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.
- 8.4 Police engagement with businesses and retailers is ongoing with links made in key retail areas across the county. Many retail business centres create high demand on the police service and therefore many feature as problem solving areas for the force. Some of the 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. To assist districts with their local plans the force data analysts produce a monthly report highlighting repeat locations, prolific offenders and links to other offending.
- 8.5 Nationally and locally we have seen increased demand caused by shoplifting, this was expected with the rising cost of living impacting across a wide proportion of people within the county. Nationally, Operation Pegasus seeks to develop relationships with police and business leaders to work together to tackle business crime, remove barriers to effective working and respond to the increased threat. This initiative brings together the expertise of a national intelligence unit together with private sector funding and data in order to combat serious and organised crime. It will look to close the gap between organised retail crime and the Police response to it. It is believed that the Pegasus initiative will enrich the national intelligence picture as well as manage offenders involved in serious and organised crime. South Yorkshire Police have committed to the project by approving this collaboration.
- 8.6 Locally, concerns have been raised by the retail industry for some time around the impact of organised criminal groups operating regionally and nationally. This has had a negative impact on confidence in the police response, despite local operations, engagement and liaison with the retail community.
- 8.7 The coordination of the response to organised retail crime has in the main been via National Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service (NaVCIS) intelligence updates and regional meetings led by the National Business Crime Centre.
- 8.8 Feedback received from retailers identified concerns about attacks against shop workers and staff. There is clearly a requirement for officers to offer advice and reassurance. This highlights the importance of ongoing police engagement, alongside patrols and reassurance, which feature in the aforementioned problem solving plans. Plans are in place to hold a networking event with OPCC, SYP and retail representatives in December. The aim to discuss the current threats and impact of retail crime and work together with an effective plan moving forward.
- 8.9 The force is participating in the National Safer Business Action Week commencing on Monday 16th October. This is an opportunity to run engagement, crime prevention and enforcement activities. Each district has committed to this week recognising the opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to tackling the problems faced by the retail community. This will include engagement, crime prevention and visibility in key retail areas. SYP media will publish the results and outcomes in local press and social media.

## **9 DANGEROUS DOGS**

- 9.1 South Yorkshire Police have seen a significant increase in the prevalence of dangerous dog related incidents across the county. There have been significant increases in terms of incident demand/calls for service from the public.
- 9.2 There has also been an increase in crime recording and aggravated offences under Section 3 Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, where members of the public have been bitten and sometimes seriously injured. SYP reported a fatal dog attack in 2022, and in 2023 there have been several reported serious attacks, some upon children.
- 9.3 This increase in demand has corresponded into an increase in seizures and kennelling, and much work is ongoing to ensure that we are suitably trained and equipped to deal with this issue so that we are able to minimise risk to the public.
- 9.4 On 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023, Prime Minister Sunak announced a government move to 'ban' the XL Bully breed. What this means is that the XL Bully may be added to the list of banned breeds under Section 1 Dangerous Dogs Act 1991. SYP are yet to see what this will mean for owners and law enforcement. Details regarding processes or timelines have not yet been released.
- 9.5 When a dog is seized, an investigation is commenced and all the circumstances examined. The incident which led to the seizure is assessed holistically, taking into account prevailing circumstances in addition to the criminal investigation, and factors such as animal welfare are considered, alongside risk assessments about the home environment, family members, children etc.
- 9.6 Victims and witnesses may be spoken to, all available evidence will be gathered. The dog itself will be examined by a qualified Dog Legislation Officer as part of the investigation, and in partnership with the investigation team, it might be deemed appropriate for further assessments to take place. It may be the case that a seized dog is considered so dangerous that it cannot be returned or re-homed, and the only option may be to humanely euthanise the animal. In other cases, the dog may be returned to its owners. Every case is unique and each investigation will be carried out according to the circumstances and evidence, ensuring that a full risk assessment takes place so that no further harm is caused by the animal.
- 9.7 South Yorkshire Police do incur costs as a result of this issue, each time a dog is seized that comes at a cost, and this is a cost we have to bear in order to remove that dog to prevent harm and minimise risk. Upon successful prosecution, or at the conclusion of legal proceedings, SYP will seek to recover costs wherever possible.
- 9.8 The force is working hard to ensure we have the processes in place to address this issue and keep people safe, we need to work hard to encourage responsible dog ownership and work with our communities to reduce the incidents of dogs being dangerously out of control. There is work to do, but we are constantly striving to improve and adapt and have established a multi-disciplinary working group who are working at pace to strengthen our operational and investigative processes.

## 10 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)**

- 10.1 A total of 6,747 ASB incidents were recorded in the latest quarter, this represents a 7 per cent reduction on the previous 3 months and a marginal 1 per cent increase on the same quarter last year.
- 10.2 Within the highest volume ASB sub-category of Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour there was a significant reduction of 12 per cent on the previous quarter and an 18% reduction on the same period last year. Conversely, there was an increase in reports of Begging/Vagrancy, with 360 incidents recorded in the latest quarter (up from 281 in Q2 and 236 in Q3 last year).
- 10.3 Over the last 12 months there have been 25,253 ASB incidents recorded, very similar to the total recorded in the previous 12 months. A break down by ASB sub-category is displayed in the table below.
- 10.4 Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour incidents have significantly reduced during this period, however there has been a sharp rise in Off-Road Bike/Quad incidents over the last few months (albeit incidents are expected to reduce over the Winter period).

ASB Type	12 mths to Sep-22	12 mths to Sep-23	% Change
ROWDY/INCONSID	9632	7882	-18%
OFF ROAD BIKE/QUAD	4106	5871	43%
VEH NUISANCE/INAPP USE	3249	3271	1%
ABND VEH NOT STOLEN	2168	2027	-7%
NUISANCE NEIGHBOUR	2022	1905	-6%
NOISE	1203	1175	-2%
BEGGING/VAGRANCY	1015	1112	10%
ANIMAL PROBLEM	680	691	2%
FIREWORKS	655	603	-8%
LITTER/DRUGS TRAPPINGS	212	266	25%
TRESPASS	152	199	31%
PROSTITUTION RELATED	122	130	7%
STREET DRINKING	81	121	49%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25297</b>	<b>25253</b>	<b>0%</b>

- 10.5 As part of dedicated national funding Operation Civitas police patrols commenced 17<sup>th</sup> July and have taken place 7 days a week since this date. Just under 2000 hrs of hotspot patrols have taken place over the last quarter. There have been 21 arrests directly linked to the patrols themselves and 45 stop and searches. Officers who carry GPS trackers when undertaking patrols have also recorded a stream of positive feedback from members of the public regarding the value of the patrols to prevent and deter ASB.
- 10.6 The work that has been undertaken by the recently established delivery team during this first quarter has been significantly supported by officers who have been undertaking the patrols. A strong foundation has been laid for the two remaining years of the project. Whilst still too early to draw any robust conclusions there is early evidence that a number of the patrolled hotspots are seeing a reduction in incidents.

- 10.7 The next phase of the work is to implement effective communication to our communities on the work that is being carried out. Consequently, a comms strategy is being prepared highlighting the delivery outcomes of the patrols thus far. This will hopefully bridge the gap between the perception of ASB that is occurring amongst our communities and what is actually taking place in terms of overall incidents. This provides tangible opportunities to improve confidence and satisfaction in this key priority area.
- 10.8 There are 48 identified hotspots across the county, 12 for each district, the locations of the hotspots have been circulated to partners via CSPs. Eight officers are assigned to the patrol areas, two for each district for eight hours per day. The officers remain in each hotspot for approximately 15-20 minutes before travelling to a new location.
- 10.9 The data to formulate the locations of the hotspots was based on volume of ASB incidents over the last four years. This is primarily police records but also data supplied by local authorities (LA) and SYFRS.
- 10.10 Each of the four LAs have been notified by the OPCC of their grant funding for 2023/2024 and arrangements are being put in place via discussions with the Civitas Delivery team regarding patrol delivery. The additional LA patrols across are expected to commence mid-October to beginning of November.
- 10.11 As a positive example of CSP work, the Summer Lane estate in Barnsley over the last 12 months experienced an increased reporting in ASB and drug related activity. A number of tactics have been employed by the CSP to address this, including the proactive use of Premise Closure Orders. Through an intelligence led approach combing Police, Local Authority and Housing data, four closure orders have been secured in the last six months. The orders themselves have been secured by Barnsley Council via application to the courts by their legal department team. This is a good example of a Local Authority being proactive in use of powers available to address ASB in the local community.

## **11 COMMUNITY TRIGGER**

- 11.1 Community Trigger process has been re-launched and re-branded by the Government as part of their Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan, now being called Anti-Social Behaviour Case Reviews.
- 11.2 The ASB Case Review provides a process and right of a victim (or family of the victim) of an ASB incident to have their reports and the resulting response reviewed through a formal multi-agency process. A request for a case review can be made to the following "Relevant Bodies"; South Yorkshire Police, Local Authority/Council, Registered Social Housing providers and South Yorkshire Clinical Care Commissioning Groups.
- 11.3 Where a request for an ASB Case Review is made to the Police this will be allocated to the local Safer Neighbourhood Service Sergeant to investigate if the matter has reached the qualifying threshold for a case review to commence. These are:
- Each recorded incident of ASB can be reported up to the maximum of a month after it occurred.



- Threshold periods will be deemed to start and end at the point the incident occurred and not at the point of recording.
- The ASB Case Review can be activated up to six months after the last incident; again this will be from when it occurred and not when it was reported.
- Each incident must be reported within a month of occurring.
- The last incident must have occurred within six months of the first incident.
- The latest activation point for an ASB Case Review is six months after the third incident occurred and therefore a maximum of 12 months from when the first incident occurred.
- A complaint made to several agencies at or around the same time or about the same incident.

Consideration may also be given to:

- The persistence of the ASB
- The harm or potential harm caused by the ASB
- The adequacy of the response to the ASB

- 11.4 If the qualifying threshold is met, a lead agency will be identified from the relevant bodies and the review process will commence. All relevant bodies will be involved in this process to ensure all available information and interventions/actions are included and a ASB Case Review Panel will be convened. The victim or their representative will be invited to attend a section of the meeting if they so wish. Action plans to tackle the root cause of the problem will be formulated and tasked out to relevant partners and, where applicable, learning will be shared among the partners. Where SYP is the lead agency the SNS Sergeant will chair the panel and ensure the process is completed and communicated appropriately with the victim and their representatives.
- 11.5 A review of the current ASB Case Review process is currently underway by the force lead and we are also looking at incorporating this process into an application for home office funding for a bespoke case management system that should assist in identification and management of such cases.

## **12 MOST SERIOUS VIOLENCE**

### **Disrupting and tackling organised criminality**

- 12.1 South Yorkshire currently has 69 active Organised Crime Groups (OCGs); 67 per cent of the OCGs have a primary threat of drugs (primarily cocaine, heroin and cannabis) and a further 13 per cent of the OCGs sell drugs using the County Lines model. 7 per cent of the OCGs have a primary threat of Organised Acquisitive Crime (notably vehicle theft), 4 per cent Economic Crime (mostly fraud offences) and 1 per cent Modern Slavery (adult sexual exploitation).
- 12.2 A notable change in primary threats are OCGs being mapped who have no direct involvement in drug dealing, but they allow their premises to be used by drug dealers to cultivate cannabis; these are recorded as 'Professional Enablers' and these account for 4 per cent of the force's OCGs.
- 12.3 Between October 2022 and September 2023, 412 disruptions were claimed, targeting 64 of these OCGs. Three quarters of disruptions relate to Pursue activity, followed by 9 per cent Protect, 8 per cent Prepare, 7 per cent Prevent.

- 12.4 Some of the results of the Police 'pursue' strand achieved between October 2022 and September 2023 reflect the hard work that SYP's Operation Fortify and Neighbourhood Policing Teams, as well as the specialist teams, have been putting in to disrupt organised criminal gangs and serious organised crime offenders. Results include:
- 56 cash seizures totalling in excess of £800,000.
  - 72 pistols, five shotguns and a quantity of various ammunition seized.
  - 121 disruption warrants executed.
  - 193kg cocaine, 28kg cannabis and 5kg heroin seized.
  - 55 vehicles seized.
  - 14 Eviction Notices.
  - Nine Closure Orders.
  - 40 Adult Safeguarding and 34 Child Safeguarding referrals submitted.
  - 299 arrests, 52 convictions and 182 years in custody.
- 12.5 Of these recorded disruptions, 31 per cent have been enacted or supported by partners as a result of the support they provide through the embedded Fortify Bronze and Silver structures
- 12.6 There have been numerous examples of partner disruptions as part of the ongoing work to tackle organised crime including:
- Bespoke training package has been delivered by SYP which enabled increased intelligence reporting from a Local Authority around drugs and the cuckooing of properties following reporting issues highlighted at an OCG Bronze meeting.
  - Local Authority Housing provider intensification around properties that are owned by landlords linked to cannabis cultivations; actions include properties prohibited, inspection and warning notices given, right to buy scheme suspended against an individual.
  - Enhanced housing checks/visits, rehousing, partner referrals and patrols around areas where OCGs are established in properties to ensure drug dealing had ceased and residents were no longer impacted by the issue. Notice of evictions served on properties inhabited or used by an OCG.
  - Following conversations between partners; flyers were distributed highlighting the signs of cuckooing and how to report it throughout the BCU.
  - Retrospective planning permission submitted by an OCG member was reviewed and ultimately rejected. The structure erected is suggested to have been installed to allow complete privacy.
  - DWP and Local Authority assessments conducted to identify what is available for a victim who was been exploited by the OCG.
  - Visits conducted to business which are owned or frequented by individual's linked to SOC by various partners DWP, HMRC, HSE, Immigration, Trading Standards and Licensing.
  - OCG Member's SIA door supervision licence suspended.

- OCG member served with a warning notice around dog breeding.
- Work between SYP, Licensing Officers and Environmental Health to ensure compliance plus action plans delivered and in some instances the licence revoked for licensed premises facilitating criminality.

12.7 South Yorkshire Police aspires to diversify the approach to tackling Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) so that the force encompasses more of the non-traditional/conventional SOC threat, in particular economic crime. Due to competition within the private and rival public sector sections, trained and accredited Financial Investigators are difficult to retain. There is a process of re-grading the roles in place, establishing a new structure and further recruitment, however, in the short term there are gaps whilst this recruitment and upskilling process is completed. There are capacity issues that make it difficult to prioritise SOC and organised crime investigations against competing threat, harm and risk of crimes in action and high risk missing people.

12.8 Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme (ARIS) funding has been approved for 50 individuals to undertake Financial Investigation Officer training. The course consists of an eight week distance learning programme. The courses will be run every two weeks right up until the end of December 2023, so it will be towards the end of quarter four that the training aspect will be completed and any full benefits can be seen. Following completion of this course, they are added to the Financial Intelligence Gateway list, whereby they are able to engage with banks and the regulated sector and remove that demand from Financial Investigators so that they can focus on the SOC threat.

12.9 The force is aware of the ever-evolving capabilities of OCGs and members of our communities are to be reassured that the force is responding to this accordingly. Most of these tactics are subject to local or regional covert tasking processes and PII applications are required at court where cases involving these tactics are used.

### **13 FINANCIAL INVESTIGATION – disruption / Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) seizures**

13.1 In respect of POCA grant money, how much it is generating and how it is being used the force can report the following:

The below table shows the POCA income into Force from 2018/19 to the present date.

YEAR	ARIS
2018/19	£172,698.94
2019/20	£154,582.31
2020/21	£274,122.01
2021/22	£650,718.62
2022/23	£879,327.48

- 13.2 The funds are split, a third is retained by the PCC and goes to fund the PCC's Community Grant Scheme, the remaining two thirds are kept within force. For 2023/2024 the PCC's percentage is one third, up to a maximum of £175,000.
- 13.3 In August 2023, an ARIS Funding Board was created to use the funds above the budgeted amount. This has enabled the force to reinvest in the response to Economic Crime using these funds by upskilling 50 officers/staff in the use of financial intelligence. By doing this it is also benefiting the Financial Investigators by freeing up capacity to focus more on SOC and the OCG Threat – *as previously referenced in the earlier Most Serious Violence section.*
- 13.4 Previously the force has spent between 80-120 hours per month on this aspect of work and already positive impacts have been experienced. In September the time spent was 30 hours, highlighting this benefit.
- 13.5 In addition to the benefits around Economic Crime, improvements will be made regarding the policing response to vulnerable people. Missing person enquiries for example are being conducted more efficiently, providing a better service.
- 13.6 Even with a 40-50 per cent vacancy factor, the force has still seen an increase that has allowed use of these funds and this is a benefit to the investment in this area of business.
- 13.7 The original chart shows that year on year there has been an improvement, which is supported by the time it takes to fully train a Financial Investigator.
- 13.8 At present there is limited business intelligence to allow for full comparisons with forces at a regional and national level. However, the National Economic Crime Centre is in the process of producing a POCA dashboard, so this will be available in the future.
- 13.9 However, from the review of the ARIS allocation dissemination, the neighbouring forces for the 2022/2023 period had an ARIS income of:

Y&H Region	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL 22/23
North Yorkshire	£102,180.22	£82,044.73	£32,485.90	£54,206.97	<b><u>£270,917.82</u></b>
Humberside	£50,723.16	£61,429.79	£51,413.24	£115,420.01	<b><u>£278,986.20</u></b>
South Yorkshire	£358,817.14	£200,481.05	£213,855.36	£106,173.93	<b><u>£879,327.48</u></b>
West Yorkshire	£184,223.42	£3,287,779.26	£546,311.43	£282,781.52	<b><u>£4,301,095.63</u></b>

Therefore, this would be in line with the regional landscape.

- 13.10 In terms of future plans for this area of business, the force can report:

- As stated above, the FIO uplift program is ongoing and will continue to the end of 2023/24.
- To provide continued support of the Market Rate Supplement for FIs, as required.
- Support Economic Crime Days of actions across the force.
- Provide further upskilling to frontline officers in relation to ECU/POCA knowledge.
- Support districts with Economic Crime Surgeries and provide specialised knowledge and investigation strategies where appropriate.
- Recruit more Financial Investigators (uplift in staff) within the Economic Crime Investigation Team.
- To assess the feasibility of a dedicated POCA seizure team.
- To support the aligning of FIs to OCGs that carry the highest threat, risk and harm to disrupt them through financial tactics.
- Explore more effective use of Sensitive Activity Reports (SARs) to identify trends, MOs and 'iconic untouchables'.
- To become more proactive with the creation of a proactive Economic Crime Investigation Team
- To ensure an intelligence led Protect approach
- Align closer to SOC, especially utilising more Covert opportunities

#### **14 OFFENDER MANAGEMENT**

- 14.1 In respect of offender management being used to tackle repeat offenders in the area of Neighbourhood Crime (NHC), the force ensures the local districts have specific governance over this area of business. Each district has regular meetings to discuss crime levels, hotspot areas and key offenders. A plan is set by all parties present.
- 14.2 Force-wide analysts provide a data pack with NHC trends and patterns which identifies key areas. Additionally, a monthly meeting chaired by the force lead for NHC allows information sharing and key nominals to be reviewed. With this, changes to the THRIVE process will identify key nominals to target. Integrated Offender Management (IOM) teams are aware of the nominals and work with local officers and partners to ensure a robust management plan is in place.
- 14.3 Probation have lowered the OGRS assessment score resulting in more offenders assigned to the fixed cohort - this includes NHC offenders and in addition more partnership work is underway with a view to identifying different pathways to reducing re-offending.
- 14.4 IOM teams discuss nominals at Multi-Agency Case Conference meetings where all key partners are present with a view to implementing robust management plans.
- 14.5 There has also been an increase in drug testing force-wide. This is supported by Probation and allows for offenders to be signposted to support mechanisms with a view to reducing re-offending and deter them from criminality. There is also specific advice and referral processes provided when offenders are brought into Custody.
- 14.6 Some districts have increased the non-statutory cohort to include those that aren't on any orders or license to assist in reducing re-offending. Buddi tags are also offered to NHC offenders.

- 14.7 The force Legal team is supporting the application of ancillary orders and these are accurately recorded on the force Connect system.
- 14.8 Staffing amongst Police IOM teams and the Probation are causing capacity issues which is an area of concern. From a partnership perspective Probation are not meeting the demand and are reviewing this, it does however impact on the Police. Moving forward the force recognises that local districts need to review staffing within IOM teams.
- 14.9 Another aspiration is for there to be an increased focus on NHC being a wider approach by investigative teams with a view to early arrest and prevention. There should also be shared learning from good working practices across the districts.

**15 EXCEPTION REPORTING**

NONE

**16 FUTURE DIRECTION / DEVELOPMENT**

- 16.1 South Yorkshire Police will continue to tackle crime and anti-social 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.
- 16.2 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:** DS 3692 Carly BOOTH (Strategic Delivery, Performance and Governance Dept)

**END**

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

**BUDGET MONITORING REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2023**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

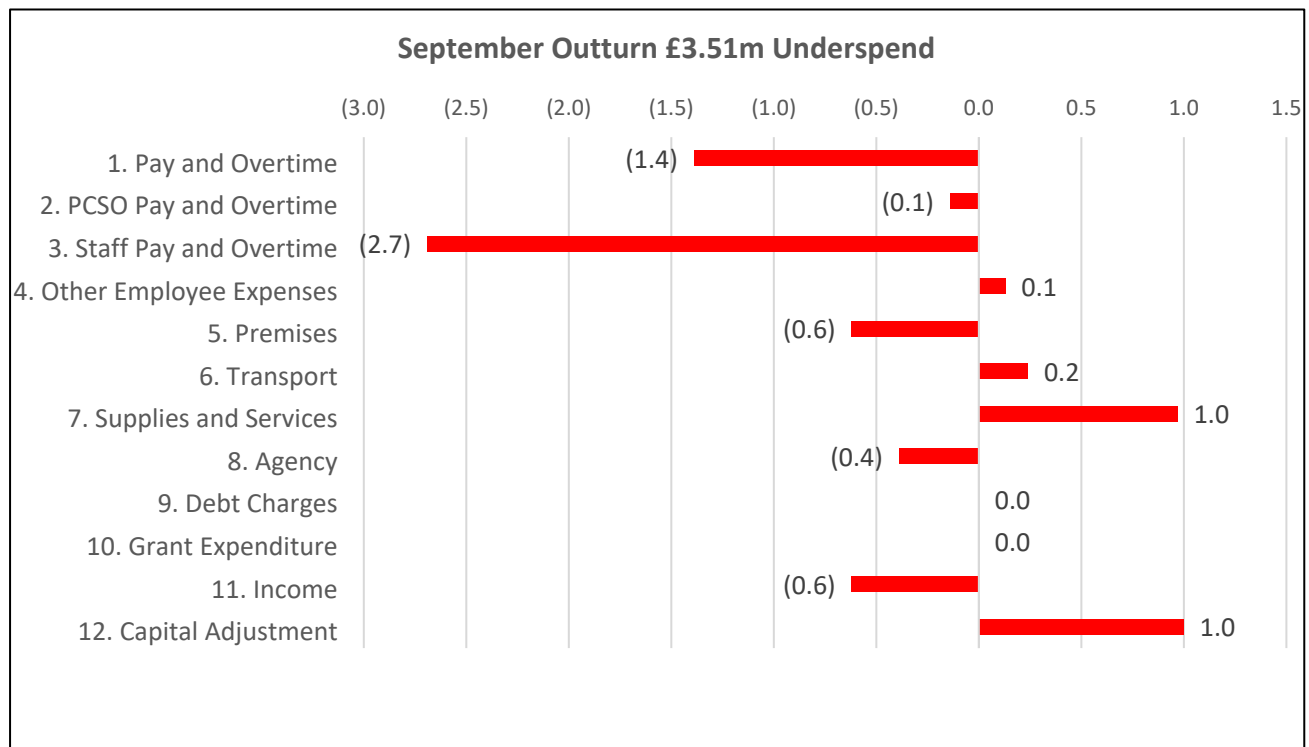
This report is to inform the Public Accountability Board of the Force’s projected outturn on its revenue and capital budgets as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. It is based on an analysis of income and expenditure for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 before accounting adjustments.

**2. Recommendations**

**It is recommended that the PCC consider the content of this report.**

**3. Background Information**

**Full year projected outturn as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023**



### 3.1 Revenue Summary

3.1.1 The Force is currently projecting a net underspend of £3.51m which is 1.13% of the total budget before legacy costs. This is made up of net underspends of £6.5m plus emerging in year pressures totalling £3.2m.

3.1.2 Overall, the projected underspend of £6.55m is impacted by the following:

Item	Business Area	Description	£m
a	Utilities	Projected underspends on utilities as previously reported in Q1. The budget was set based on professional advice at a time when the market was volatile. Favourable market conditions and tighter contract management has resulted in a significant underspend which will have a positive impact on future years	1.4
b	Income	<p>The Force has benefitted from an overachievement in income in several areas.</p> <p>Home Office funding for pay awards – the PCC/Chief Constable set a prudent 3% pay award and was not expecting to receive additional Home Office funding. The Force will receive an additional £8.32m, this being the top up from 2% to 7%. The surplus income amounts to approximately £1.8m and this funding is confirmed for 2024/25. If it continues beyond 2024/25 it will have a positive impact on future years.</p> <p>Police Uplift Programme (PUP) funding – the force was encouraged to stretch its PUP headcount target and agreed to increase this from 3,039 to 3,049. This was measured as at the end of September (reported headcount of 3,059) and £45k per officer has been projected as it is anticipated the target will be maintained as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. This is one-off funding not expected in future years.</p> <p>Operation Safeguard – this is income for short term use of custody cells for prisoners, it is one-off income not expected in future years.</p>	2.55
c	In Year Savings	Effective contract management has delivered contract savings in year on IT licences and subscriptions of £0.8m. This is being reviewed to capture any permanent savings that will have a positive impact on future years.	0.8
d	Growth	Underspends on growth of £1.6m are projected. A significant contribution is the ongoing review of the IT collaboration with Humberside Police. This is a temporary underspend until a decision is taken and changes implemented. Other reasons are changes in planned officer expansion following extensive review by SCT ensuring that front line policing numbers are protected. This will generate permanent savings to be reinvested or used to balance next year's budget. There have also been delays in implementing some growth due to difficulties in recruiting and retaining staff which will generate an in year saving. Any recurrent underspends will be available to balance the budget next year and may possibly be reinvested in new growth.	1.6



e	Workforce Plan Changes	Workforce plan changes and changes in the workforce mix are also predicted to contribute £0.2m to the underspend.	0.2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Net Underspends</b>	<b>6.55</b>

3.1.3 The reported underspend has created opportunities to meet new and emerging cost pressures of £3.2m without the need to approach the PCC for reserves. This includes:

Item	Business Area	Description	£m
a	Pension Remedy	Outsourcing of the Pensions Remedy calculations to address the significant demand placed on a small Pensions Team following the McCloud judgement Pension reform which seeks to address age discrimination.	0.6
b	Doncaster RAAC	Estimated costs associated with the discovery of RAAC at Doncaster Police Headquarters.	0.27
c	Body Worn Video	Direct revenue financing the body worn video data recovery project of £0.4m.	0.4
d	Planned works	Reactive and planned engineering works and sustainability works to avoid delays to essential works and reduce the impact on next year's budget.	0.55
e	Vehicle replacement programme	Direct revenue financing the vehicle replacement programme to fund vehicle write-offs and inflationary pressures	0.6
f	Priority Based Budget Tranche 2	Commencing Priority Based Budgeting tranche two to continue the journey in ensuring force resources are in the right place and identifying areas where efficiency and cashable savings can be achieved.	0.3
g	Dangerous dogs	Costs associated with dangerous dogs and changes in legislation.	0.22
h	Bids for essential works	Bids for one-off funding to support essential work that will reduce the pressure on next year's budget.	0.2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Emerging Pressures</b>	<b>3.14</b>

The Force is also looking at other opportunities to bring forward work that will reduce the pressure on next year's budget, for example, the 2024/25 external training budget is oversubscribed so any training that can take place in the current year will reduce next year's pressure. The Force is also anticipating additional cost pressures from policing protests.

### 3.1.4 Revenue Summary

	Full year Budget £000	Full Year Outturn £000	(Under) / Overspend £000	% of budget
Police Pay incl. Overtime	177,626	176,233	(1,393)	-0.78%
PCSO Pay incl. Overtime	4,371	4,233	(139)	-3.17%
Staff Pay incl. Overtime	93,592	90,904	(2,688)	-2.87%
Other Employee Expenses	6,664	6,790	125	1.88%
Premises	13,856	13,238	(618)	-4.46%
Transport	5,114	5,355	241	4.72%
Supplies and Services	23,567	24,536	969	4.11%
Agency	20,020	19,631	(388)	-1.94%
Income	(16,016)	(16,627)	(611)	3.82%
Specific Grant Funding	(17,750)	(17,756)	5	0.00%
Capital Adjustments	64	1,064	1,000	1,556%
Grant Expenditure	2	2	0	0.00%
<b>Net Expenditure Before Legacy</b>	<b>311,110</b>	<b>307,603</b>	<b>(3,507)</b>	<b>-1.13%</b>

### 3.2 POLICE OFFICERS PAY & OVERTIME - £1.39m underspend (£1.94m pay underspend & £0.55m overtime overspend)

3.2.1 Police pay is projecting an underspend of £1.94m. As previously reported, some of this relates to the opening position as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 of £0.30m and a further £0.10m relating to the revised Workforce plan changes in year.

3.2.2 The current Workforce Plan is projecting a year end strength, as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, of 2,948.09 which is 33.39 under the budgeted WFP. Despite being 33.39 FTE under on strength the net financial impact of this is a £0.63m underspend due to the workforce mix. This is due to having fewer leavers and retirements coupled with fewer joiners and transferees, each having different associated costs in terms of spinal point.

3.2.3 The Home Office Police Uplift maintenance target is measured in headcount, for SYP the target is 3,039 (3,049 with the additional stretch officers). As of 30<sup>th</sup> September, our headcount was 3,059. Income for September at £15k per officer has been included in the projections for the ten stretch officers. The uplift headcount will be assessed again in March against the target and if the additional 10 Officers are achieved a further £30k per officer income will be received, this has been included in the income projections.

3.2.4 There are also overspends and underspends across other areas not covered by the Workforce Plan, including underspends of £0.34m on growth budgets delayed or not currently prioritised, SCT continuously review the expansion post list and re-prioritise projects accordingly; £0.09m budget changes to RCU; these are partially offset by overspends other allowances of £0.23m.

3.2.5 Overtime is projected to overspend by £0.55m. The main areas contributing to the overspend are Doncaster £0.25m, Rotherham £0.11m, Sheffield £0.14m and OSU £0.23m. Across the force some overspends are partly attributable to vacant posts and sickness coupled with special operations. There are overspends in football due to additional matches for play offs. These overspends are partially offset by a projected

underspend on FCR of £0.25m there is a proposal to realign overtime budgets and move some police overtime budget to staff overtime, which requires relevant approval before actioning.

### **3.3 PCSO PAY & OVERTIME – £0.14m underspent against budget**

3.3.1 Projected outturn of £4.23m, which is £0.14m underspend against budget. The underspend is in other leavers - 1.33 FTE additional leavers than budgeted from Sept 22 - Mar 23, plus in year 2.78 FTE additional leavers. There is also a small £0.02m variance due to surplus Home Office pay for the 7% pay award.

### **3.4 POLICE STAFF PAY & OVERTIME - £2.69m underspend (£3.30m pay underspend offset by £0.61m overspend on overtime)**

3.4.1 Staff pay is projected to underspend by £3.30m. The main reasons for the underspend are £0.54m in regional procurement due to the de-collaboration process and difficulties in recruiting; £0.37m surplus Home Office pay award; £0.68m revised projection on the IT restructure growth project, detailed discussions have been taking place, the final outcomes are awaited but it is projected that this project will underspend this year; coupled with vacancies across several departments from delays in recruitment £0.43m in POD, £0.36m in Crime Services; £0.30m in Sheffield; £0.25m in BC&I, £0.17m in OSU, £0.14m in Corporate Finance and £0.16m in EFM. Partially offset by an overspend of £0.23m in Custody, due to the forecast over-establishment of 3 detention officers and not meeting their vacancy factor. Of the staff pay underspends c. £0.60m is in relation to approved growth posts.

3.4.2 Overtime has a projected overspend of £0.61m. The main variances are within Force Control Room £0.22m, there is a proposal being written to cover this from Police Overtime underspends recurrently; CJU £0.10m, projections are based on actual trends to date, work is underway to review spend with the management team; and Crime Services £0.08m, mainly in Intel and PVP due to covering vacancies and demand.

3.4.3 Staff AFP strength is 2,134.60 which is below budget by 230.32 however there are 177.15 externally, income and temporary funded posts bringing us to 53.17 under budget.

### **3.5 OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES- £0.13m overspend**

3.5.1 This relates to a projected overspend on employee related insurance of £0.08m. A review of movement in provisions is being done quarterly based on the latest claims information from Legal. This will result in fluctuations as we go through the year but will smooth out any big swings at year end.

3.5.2 There is also an overspend on Physio Services of £0.05m as the Force have switched to using outsourced services.

### **3.6 PREMISES - £0.61m underspend**

3.6.1 The projected underspend is mainly due to a reduction in expected costs for gas and electricity from YPO, prices for the hedged costs are now expected to be closer to a 76%

rise for Gas from 22-23 than the 100% originally expected. Partially offset by some additionally identified engineering work, sustainability work and RAAC costs.

### **3.7 TRANSPORT– £0.24m overspend**

- 3.7.1 There are overspends projected on public transport rate £0.11m, spread across several districts and departments work continues to understand what is driving this increase in cost.
- 3.7.2 VFM projections remain high with a £0.24m overspend for Maintenance Parts, Consumables, Workshop Equipment and External Maintenance costs. These are now being forecast to actual trend. As VFM was part of the first tranche of Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) there are some recommendations which if implemented could help reduce these costs.
- 3.7.3 Offsetting this are underspends projected on petrol £0.05m and diesel £0.04m due to growth budget not being required for Armed Crime Team and Road Crime unit. Any recurrent under-utilisation of prior approved growth could be considered to be reprioritised against 24-25 Business Plans.

### **3.8 SUPPLIES & SERVICES – £0.97m overspend**

- 3.8.1 The supplies and services overspend is made up of variances against several account lines with the main overspends being:
- 3.8.2 £0.06m overspend on postage, detainee consumables, counsel fees and boarding up which are all based on actual trend year-to-date.
- 3.8.3 £0.10m overspend on furniture due to force wide reasonable adjustments, based on the trend so far this year. This budget sits with P&OD and a business plan has been submitted for 24-25 to request further funding based on historic trends.
- 3.8.4 £0.22m overspend on seized dogs, there has been an increase in the number of dogs being held in kennels, this is currently being reviewed under PBB. In additional changes in legislation around banned breeds has led to an increase in the number of seized dogs.
- 3.8.5 £0.46m overspend on consultants' fees due to higher costs in 23-24 compared to the original budget, which phased the spend across 23-24 and 24-25 financial years. Coupled with commencing Priority Based Budgeting tranche two to continue the journey in ensuring the forces resources are in the right place and identifying areas where efficiency and cashable savings can be achieved.
- 3.8.6 £0.60m on outsourcing costs for pension remedy and brought forward growth projects £0.20m for software, licences, and H&S equipment. These are partially offset by the following underspends:
- 3.8.7 £0.21m on software licences- relating to an underspend in IT, resulting from favourable contractual decisions across various Force-wide contracts.

3.8.8 £0.22m underspend on subscription services, relating to a credit note received against for Oracle system due to a new contract which started via BC&I project. We are working with BC&I colleagues to review this budget; however, no further costs are expected.

3.8.9 £0.17m underspend on Supplies contingency is due to Connect Express not going ahead under the current contract, a procurement exercise is taking place. Some of these areas of spend fall within the areas reviewed under PBB, and could be reduced if recommendations are implemented, these are currently being discussed and agreed through the change boards.

### **3.9 AGENCY– £0.39m underspend**

3.9.1 £0.35m projected underspend on Home Office IT recharges, the actual costs to date are lower than budgeted, at the time of setting the budget the information on these recharges was not available and therefore it was based on the prior year budget, plus an inflation element. In addition, there is an underspend on Pentip Licences, due to the actual cost being lower than budgeted.

3.9.2 £0.17m projected underspend on insurance for public liability civil action claims. A review of movement in provisions is being done quarterly based on the latest claims information from Legal. This will result in fluctuations as we go through the year but will smooth out any big swings at year end.

3.9.3 Regional Lead is £0.14m overspent, based on notification from lead forces. It has now been agreed that the Regional Scientific Support and the Collision Investigations Unit reserve balances will be used to offset against the 2023/24 budget and contributions will remain at 2022/23 levels for this year only.

### **3.10 INCOME – £0.61m overachievement**

3.10.1 £1.22m overachievement on Income from a Public Body, including £0.56m Op Safeguard surplus income above associated costs for overtime. This is currently projected to end in October. Coupled with additional income for the PUP stretch target of ten officers, which increased income by £0.45m and overachievement in income on SCTP of £0.18m.

3.10.2 £0.10m overachievement in mutual aid income in OSU which has no budget, but income achieved in year for policing events.

3.10.3 £0.09 overachievement in court prosecution income in CJU – projections based on actual trend

3.10.4 Offset by £0.09m underachievement in Vehicle servicing income due to the vacancies in the Commissioning Team resulting in the inability to generate income from completing Vehicle Services. It is also thought that SYFR have new vehicles which are being serviced by the dealer. Options are being considered under PBB in relation to these issues.

3.10.5 £0.26m SCTP reduction in income, this effectively removes any projected over-achievement of income, this funding is ring-fenced and any over-achievement at year-end would go into an earmarked reserve.

### **3.11 Capital Adjustments**

3.11.1 Direct revenue financing for the body worn video data recovery project of £0.4m and the vehicle replacement programme to fund vehicle write-offs and inflationary pressures of £0.6m. Subject to PCC approval.

### **3.12 SPECIFIC GRANT FUNDING**

3.12.3 Total grant income projected as at end of September is £13.23m, several grants currently do not have the Inward Investment Process (IIP) paperwork fully completed and this is causing a variance of £1.41m as budgets are yet to be uploaded.

### **3.13 LEGACY**

3.13.3 Hillsborough, the Stovewood Enquiry and CSE civil claims are currently projected to spend in full.

3.13.4 This reflects information received from the oPCC.

### **3.14 MTRS Savings**

3.14.1 The 2023/24 savings target is £3.72m of which £3.27m is currently showing as achieved with further projected savings of £0.21m. The £0.46m unachieved savings relate to CJD File Build project and the Under £50k Procurement Team which are currently not expected to be achieved in 2023/24. All savings continue to be monitored by the Savings & Efficiencies Programme Board to ensure that any savings stripped out do not result in overspends or have a detrimental negative impact elsewhere.

### **3.15 GROWTH**

3.15.1 The total amount approved for business plan growth in 2023/24 was £7.14m, this is split between the bids that were supported during the Business Planning rounds for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

3.15.2 Projected underspend of £1.63m. The main reasons for this underspend are £0.68m on the IT restructure, detailed discussions have been taking place, the final outcomes are awaited but it is projected that this project will underspend this year. Coupled with £0.57m of approved growth that is delayed or not currently prioritised, SCT continuously review the expansion post list and re-prioritise projects accordingly. Where this is non-recurrent consideration could be given to use it to offset in year emerging issues, subject to agreement of the PCC, any recurrent growth not needed could be reinvested into approved growth for 24-25 as part of the Strategic Planning cycle. Further underspends relate to vacancies across growth posts of £0.30m including POD £0.12m, Legal £0.07m, BCI £0.03m and PSD £0.03m; and PVP review £0.05m.

3.15.3 There is an overspend in consultancy £0.10m as costs were originally phased over two financial years, with £0.20m included in 24/25, all costs will be incurred in this financial year.

### 3.16 CAPITAL

3.16.1 The PCC has approved a revised 2023/24 capital programme of £17.28m (£25.91m reduced by slippage adjustment of £8.64m to reflect past trends in spending). This increased to £17.92m (£25.59m, slippage adjustment £8.67m) in August following PCC approval of changes in schemes.

3.16.2 The Capital Programme is projected to spend in full although at an individual scheme level, a spend of £22.50m is projected resulting in a variance of £2.95m. Year to date £6.5m has been spent which reflects 36% of the full year budget.

3.16.3 The significant projects which are projecting slippage, overspends and underspends in excess of £0.10m are detailed below:

Capital Scheme	Comments	Slippage £m
<b>Digital Fund (Tech Enabled Team)</b>	Delays in scheme resulting from lengthy procurement and governance processes	0.25
<b>Oracle Cloud</b>	Proposal to slip the project contingency to fund support staff after go-live	0.10
<b>Compartmentation Survey &amp; Remedial Works</b>	Delays in tender process, main contractor due to start April 24	0.10
<b>Pioneer Close - (Uplift Requirement)</b>	Proposal to slip due to delay in start to suit contractor & procurement availability	0.26
<b>Data Migration</b>	Proposal to slip the project on a year, linked to below. This is due to many factors including awaiting a decision if it is included in PBB and recruitment delays for specific roles and general governance processes.	0.90
<b>Technical Solutions to Improve Data</b>	Proposal to slip the project on a year, linked to below. This is due to many factors including awaiting a decision if it is included in PBB and recruitment delays for specific roles and general governance processes.	0.21

Capital Scheme	Comments	Underspend £m
<b>Oracle Cloud</b>	Underspend due to post Go-Live costs not being capitalisable	0.44
<b>Body Armour</b>	Due to less Officers requiring new Body Armour this financial year	0.30

Capital Scheme	Comments	Overspend £m
<b>Vehicle Replacement Programme 2022/23</b>	This overspend is mainly attributable to replacements of write offs and some vehicles being more expensive than budgeted for.	0.49
<b>Vehicle Replacement 2023/24</b>	This overspend is mainly attributable to replacements of write offs and some vehicles being more expensive than budgeted for.	0.12

**Officer Responsible:** Debbie Carrington, Chief Finance Officer  
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## INDEPENDENT ETHICS PANEL

### Exception Report to Public Accountability Board

6 November 2023

## STOP and SEARCH

1. Stop and Search continues to be an important element of IEP work
2. A dedicated link member, Sheila Wright, attends and reports on the External Scrutiny Panel which involves volunteer members of the general public
3. PAB has received reports in the past on the effectiveness of external scrutiny
4. Sheila Wright has recently observed and reported positively on initial training of officers. Her observations confirm the centrality of the Values and Behaviour Framework developed by SYP.
5. Essential support to IEP is provided by OPCC..
6. Disproportionality on how the Stop and Search power is used remains a matter of high national concern.
7. Non-white citizens are more likely than white citizens to be subject to Stop and Search.
8. Within this very broad categorisation, black citizens are even more likely than others to be stopped and searched.
9. SYP recognises that disproportionality exists in South Yorkshire even if not on the scale found in some other force areas, notably but not exclusively London.
10. In SY there is clear emphasis observed in training on the need for Fair Treatment.
11. Latest information presented to IEP in September 2023 indicates that ca 57% of all Stops and Searches in the County are related to drugs
12. The collection of data on the ethnicity of subjects is improving but relies on self-identification. Officers report that this can be operationally difficult. There needs to be better recording of those who were asked but declined and those cases where the person was not asked at all.
13. The failure to record the true location of every stop and search event weakens the reliability and usefulness of data about S&S. On the other hand, it is gratifying to record the increasingly universal use of Body Worn Video. This represents real improvement.
14. If progress is to be made in understanding and eliminating disproportionality and potentially unfair treatment, there needs to be significant improvement in performance at (12) and (13) above.
15. If this can be achieved, it should be possible to connect the relevant demographic characteristics (mainly age, ethnicity, socio-economic data) of localities to the use of this power and thereby provide a more informed analysis.
16. Until there has been more progress on these matters, IEP can offer only limited assurance around disproportionate use: on the positive side, SYP embraces and promotes robust external and internal scrutiny, has positive training and street skills programmes in relation to S&S, has a high profile commitment to fair treatment and the Values and Behaviour Framework, reinforced through its leadership training

courses and SYP acknowledges that perceptions of disproportionality can threaten Trust and Confidence.

17. IEP looks forward to being in a position to offer full assurance about the use of S&S powers once it sees more progress on these matters.



Joint Independent Audit Committee Exception Report

Exception Report	Report Author
Joint Independent Audit Committee	Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee
	Date of the Report
	23 October 2023 (for PAB on 6 November 2023)

<b>Urgent:</b>	<b>No</b>
Where “Yes”, the <b>Chair</b> of the <b>Joint Independent Audit Committee</b> should <b>immediately notify</b> the <b>Commissioner</b> of the matter considered urgent and set out in this section the reason(s) for such urgency.	

<b>Restricted:</b>	<b>No</b>
The Chair of the <b>Joint Independent Audit Committee</b> should indicate which, if any, aspects of the report should be restricted, along with the associated rationale.	

Level of assurance

A narrative summarising the level of overall assurance from the Chair should be provided in this section. The content of the following table should guide the report author in offering a level of assurance:

Level of Assurance	Assessment
1	Significant gaps / weaknesses exist or controls non-effective (generally non compliant)
2	Some gaps / weaknesses exist or controls only partly effective (partial compliance)
3	Some minor gaps / weaknesses exist but generally strengths outweigh weaknesses and controls are generally effective (generally compliant)
4	Very few or no gaps / weaknesses exist and controls are effective (fully compliant)

Updates and Exceptions

The Committee assists the PCC in discharging his statutory responsibilities around holding the Force to account which contributes towards enhancing public trust and confidence in the governance of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and South Yorkshire Police (SYP).

The Joint Independent Audit Committee met on the 22 June 2023 and further on 19 July 2023 for the closure of the accounts workshop.

Exceptions for noting:-

## **Joint Independent Audit Committee Exception Report**

### **1 PCC UPDATE**

The Commissioner provided members with a copy of his Annual Report. This will be the final Annual Report of his term of office.

A tight financial settlement is expected for the coming year. It is anticipated that the precept will be lower this year because it is an election year. There will be a requirement for savings and SYP's commitment to PBB is crucial.

RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) is in only one police building.

### **2 FORCE UPDATE**

ACC D Thorpe highlighted that June 2023 had been one of the busiest months he had ever experienced. July and August saw a slight decline in 999 calls. SYP's response over the summer was good which should be an improving picture next year because of the increase in police officers.

SYP have been praised for its response to Right Care, Right Person. This has been a three phased approach. The first phase focused on welfare concerns. Between March 2023 and August 2023, 2800, calls were redirected saving £120,000 in officer time.

The next phase concerned people that walk out of health care settings.

The final phase, to be launched in October, is around mental health and is the most contentious.

ACC Thorpe commented that he had talked publicly about dangerous dogs. Previously SYP were responding to 1-2 calls per day relating to dangerous dogs, they are now responding to 6-7 calls. Between August 2021 and September 2022 SYP had deployed firearms officers 5 times to dangerous dogs. In 2022-2023 firearms officers had been deployed on 23 occasions, 15 to XL Bullies.

ACC Thorpe referred to the fatal shooting in London last year which has resulted in firearms officers handing in their ticket to allow them a period of reflection.

ACC Thorpe is holding face to face meeting with all firearms officers to offer reassurance. So far, there is no indication that SYP firearms officers are looking for a period of reflection.

ACC Thorpe referenced the HMICFRS report into the effectiveness of vetting arrangements in SYP published on 21 September 2023. The inspection had taken place in April 2023 and SYP had been graded as Adequate. There is a new Head of Vetting who is dealing with the recommendations and SYP is seeing huge improvements.

## **Joint Independent Audit Committee Exception Report**

### **3 IT GOVERNANCE UPDATE**

Work continues to identify the most appropriate solution for the future of IT in both SYP and Humber.

This is now in the final stages. A report will be provided to the December meeting.

IT will stay on SYP's risk register and in the Internal Audit Plan.

### **4 HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT**

SYP's Annual Health and Safety Report 2022-23 was presented to the committee which highlighted the significant increase in numbers of accidents/assaults and near misses being reported.

A new APP for reporting injuries and near misses at work has been deployed which makes it easier to report incidents appears to explain the increase.

### **5 VRU PROGRESS UPDATE INCLUDING BENEFITS REALISATION**

A report of the Head of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) was presented to the Committee. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the VRU and its governance structures.

The committee agreed that it is a positive report with a positive internal audit conclusion. The report did raise a couple of questions in relation to where the VRU is compared with other VRUs and whether the VRU is value for money.

The VRU is grant funded and all decisions go through the Violence Reduction Exec Board.

The VRU is monitored by the Home Office and have to submit Home Office returns and goes through the same value for money process as the OPCC.

Members commented that they would like another paragraph on the KPIs and progress against these.

### **6 WORKFORCE PLANNING UPDATE**

SYP's projected Workforce Profile as of 31 August 2023 was presented to the committee. The report is based on an analysis of posts and strength for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

SYP has achieved its uplift target of 3039 at the end of March. The target is based on headcount (as specified by the Home Office) and not Full Time Equivalent.

## **Joint Independent Audit Committee Exception Report**

There are three area where cohort recruitment is taking place, Investigating Officers, Force Control Room staff and PCSOs these are linked to training.

The Commissioner informed the Committee that the first lot of recruits had now completed their degree course. Everyone has passed and some had got exceptional grades.

### **7 AUDIT PLAN REPORT**

A report of the Head of Internal Audit on the strategic internal audit plan was presented to the Committee.

The purpose of the report was to provide South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (SYPCC), through the Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC), with the assurance it needs to prepare an annual Governance Statement that complies with best practice in corporate governance. Internal Audit also aim to contribute to the continuous improvement of governance, risk management and internal control processes through the implementation of this this plan.

The Committee heard that the internal audit plan 2023/24 had been developed following meetings with a range of people to understand key risks.

The internal audit plan makes best use of internal audit time. Eight audits, covering a broad range of areas have been identified and 235 days have been allocated. Audits will be undertaken at the pace of risk.

Key themes are set out and include the approach to risk management, PBB to ensure financial stability, the IT Strategy and the delivery of shared services.

### **8 EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT**

A report of the Key Audit Partner was presented to the Committee. The purpose of the report was to provide the JIAC with a report on progress in delivering Grant Thornton's responsibilities as SYP and PCC's external auditors.

No audit adjustments have been identified. There are three areas that need resolving:

- Closing valuation of land and buildings
- Valuation of the pension fund liability for Police Pension Scheme (PPS)
- The pension fund net surplus for Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

Assurance from the Pension Fund auditor is still outstanding.

Grant Thornton is hoping to give their opinion next month.

Value for Money will come to JIAC in December for sign off before Christmas.

## **Joint Independent Audit Committee Exception Report**

### 9 OPCC INFORMATION GOVERNANCE REPORT

A report of the Chief Executive was presented to the Committee. The purpose of the report was to update the Committee in relation to the PCC's compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation, Subject Access Requests, The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) (Amendment) Order 2021 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including the Publication Scheme.

Members were able to assure the PCC on the adequacy and effectiveness of the OPCC's compliance with the GDPR, SIO, FOIA, SARs and the Publication Scheme.

### 10 SYP ORGANISATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE, INCLUDING PSD AND PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Committee to provide a brief report on the Force's Organisational Infrastructure (OI) governance arrangements.

The OI Team are currently planning for this year's OI Workshops. All Plan Owners/Updaters have been invited to one of two Workshops to provide assurance of how compliance can continue to improve.

### 11 SYP ANNUAL GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN - PROGRESS UPDATE

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Committee providing an update in relation to the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan 2022/23.

Members were assured that progress is being made against those areas for improvement identified in the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23.

### 12 OPCC ANNUAL GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN - PROGRESS UPDATE

A report of the Chief Executive and Solicitor was presented to the Committee to provide the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan 2022/23. The report was noted and Members were assured that progress is being made against those areas for improvement identified in the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23.

### 13 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL OUTTURN REPORT 2022/23

A report of the PCC's Chief Finance Officer was presented to the Committee to provide information on treasury management activity and prudential indicators, as required under the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management Code of Practice and the CIPFA Prudential Code.

### **Joint Independent Audit Committee Exception Report**

This was the first of the regular reports to come to the Committee. Previously there had been three reports but there will now be one to each of the meetings.

The report confirmed that we are fully compliant with the Treasury Management Strategy approved in February 2023.

The Treasury Management Dashboard was highlighted. Work needs to take place around cashflow. Once Oracle Cloud is in place there should be more information available.

Members noted the report and were able to provide assurance to the PCC that treasury management activities are being properly managed.

#### 14 SYP / OPCC BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

A report of the OPCC's Chief Finance Officer was presented to the Committee to set out the forecast budget position for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023, this was the first report of the financial year.

At the end of June SYP is currently projecting a £1.6m underspend. Most of this is down to more favourable prices than originally anticipated by YPO for utility costs.

The PCC approved the revised £17.35m capital programme in June 2023 to take account of slippage, re-phasing and adjustments. Expenditure to date amounted to £2.2m, it is anticipated that the full budget will be spent by year end. This position is being monitored.

Members noted the report and were able to provide assurance to the PCC that they had scrutinised and asked questions around the report.

### **Recommendations**

The Commissioner is recommended to consider and comment on the exceptions and overall level of assurance provided by the Joint Independent Audit Committee.

#### **Report author details**

Name: Steve Wragg, Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee

**Signed: S Wragg**

**Date: 23.10.23**



## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**DATE: 6 November 2023**

## **TRUST AND CONFIDENCE**

### **REPORT OF THE OPCC**

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

- 1.1 This report provides an update from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) on the ongoing work in support of improving trust and confidence in policing, one of the PCC's fundamental principles that underpins everything we do.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF OPTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISION REQUIRED**

- 2.1 That the report is noted.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Confidence in policing has been badly damaged nationally where police officers have seriously breached the standards of professional behaviour expected of them. The Home Secretary has highlighted the need to improve police culture and the public's trust that police officers will keep them safe in their communities.
- 3.2 The PCC asked the Chief Constable to report into his Public Accountability Board about the work underway within to drive organisational culture and improve public trust and confidence in policing.
- 3.3 In May 2023 the Chief Constable provided a summary of the work underway to this Board. The key areas of the report included:
- Leadership and Culture
  - Violence Against Women and Girls
  - Police Perpetrator Domestic Abuse
  - Regulation 13
  - Police Race Action Plan
  - Counter Corruption

## **4 HOW THE PCC SEEKS ASSURANCE**

- 4.1 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) as part of its Delivery Plan has refreshed the PCC's Holding to Account arrangements to ensure a greater focus on all the fundamental principles within the Police and Crime Plan, including improving public trust and confidence in policing.
- 3.4 The PCC has three independent assurance panels that scrutinise, challenge and advise SYP in areas of its work that affect trust and confidence, including integrity, standards and ethics of decision making as well as the adequacy and effectiveness of governance, risk, data quality, internal control and financial management.
- 3.5 These independent panels are:
- Independent Ethics Panel
  - Joint Independent Audit Committee
  - Independent Advisory Panel for Policing Protests
- 4.2 The Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) comprises of five members of the public who bring extensive professional experience, across the private, public and voluntary sectors to assure the PCC that the ethical standards of SYP's policing in South Yorkshire or of the highest order and merit the trust and confidence of the communities SYP serves.
- 4.3 The IEP has been instrumental in supporting the development of external scrutiny panels, made up of volunteers from the general public. At present these panels cover:
- Stop and Search
  - Use of Force
  - Use of Force (Taser)
- 4.4 Members of the Panel also undertake additional areas of scrutiny including:
- The work of the Professional Standard Department
  - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
  - The culture of SYP
  - Digital technology and Artificial Intelligence
- 4.5 Three members of the IEP also join an independent Chair to make up the Independent Advisory Panel for Policing Protests. This Panel provides additional scrutiny of how SYP manages public protests by scrutinising the policing plans and observing the policing of protests and offering comment and advice.

- 4.6 The panel's brief is to provide additional accountability and scrutiny of how SYP balances the right to protest in a democratic society with limiting the potential for negative or harmful impact of some protests on the well-being and cohesion of the community or communities affected by the actions of protesters.
- 4.6 The Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC) consists of five independent members of the public who provide a specialist forum to support and monitor the OPCC and force in the areas of governance, risk management, external audit, internal audit, financial reporting, and other related areas.
- 4.7 JIAC supports both the OPCC and force in establishing, maintaining, and improving effective governance, risk management, and internal control arrangements.
- 4.8 As the primary point of contact for the OPCC's and force's internal and external auditors, JIAC also provides a forum to review audit conclusions and recommendations. The committee can escalate key recommendations for action, ensuring that areas of concern are given proper attention.
- 4.9 The Public Accountability Board is the public forum by which the PCC holds the Chief Constable and members of the Senior Command Team to account.
- 4.10 Reports on each district as well as on the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan and prepared by the Chief Constable and her senior officers along with other highlighted areas where the PCC requests particular updates, such as Trust and Confidence, Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse or Rural Crime.

## **5 HOW TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE PCC'S ASSURANCE AND SCRUTINY WORK**

- 5.1 Information on the work undertaken by the PCC to ensure that the public can have trust and confidence in the assurance and scrutiny that he and his office undertakes is available on the PCC's website: <https://southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/>
- 5.2 Work is ongoing and to update the pages around this work and provide the public with more detailed information around the assurance and scrutiny work. Part of this work involves producing a series of short videos with members of the IEP around their roles. This work will be completed and available on the IEP pages of the website by 30 November.

## **6 RECOMMENDATION AND DECISION REQUIRED**

- 6.1 The PCC is recommended to note the report.

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## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**6 NOVEMBER 2023**

## **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 27 decisions in 2023/24.

<sup>1</sup>The Police Federation of England and Wales (PFEW) is the staff association for police constables, sergeants, inspectors (including chief inspectors), and special constables.

4.2 For the period 23 August 2023 (the date of the last report) to 18 October 2023 the PCC has made the following decisions to draw to the attention of the Public Accountability Board.

4.2.1 Purchase of SYP (Federation) Welfare Vehicle

The PCC approved the purchase of a Shared Welfare Vehicle, funded by the South Yorkshire Police Federation<sup>1</sup>.

SYP will have access to a second Welfare Vehicle at no additional capital cost. This will save SYP circa £27,000 capital that has previously been budgeted for. The vehicle will be managed by the Federation and will be made available for Force deployment when not in use by the Federation. When in use by the Federation, the vehicle will still be benefiting and supporting SYP staff wellbeing.

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).

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<sup>1</sup>The Police Federation of England and Wales (PFEW) is the staff association for police constables, sergeants, inspectors (including chief inspectors), and special constables.

## PAB 3 Month Work Programme 2023/2024

Date of Meeting	Papers Required	Agenda Items / Reports	Author	Purpose/Comments
<b>8 January 2024</b>	20 December	<b>Force Performance</b> – Barnsley District Summary Update	SYP	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 (2023 - 2025)</b> – Protecting Vulnerable People	SYP	Provide update to PCC re Force progress towards the priority Protecting Vulnerable People in the Police and Crime Plan.
		Victim Report	SYP	Provide the PCC with a more detailed report which shows what SYP is doing in relation to putting victims first, including information on Victim Care, the Victims and Prisoners Bill, Victims Code, safeguarding of victims, victim attrition and victim satisfaction
		PCC Decision	OPCC	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
		JIAC Assurance Report (6/12/23)	JIAC	Provide an overview of the Committees areas of exception reporting for PCC's information / action
		IEP Assurance Report (12/12/23)	IEP	Provide an overview of the Panel's areas of exception reporting for PCC's information / action

## PAB 3 Month Work Programme 2023/2024

Date of Meeting	Papers Required	Agenda Items / Reports	Author	Purpose/Comments
<b>26 February 2024</b>	15 February	Final precept recommendations and budget 2024/2025.	OPCC	PCC to formally agree the budget and council tax precept.

Date of Meeting	Papers Required	Agenda Items / Reports	Author	Purpose/Comments
<b>7 March 2024</b>	27 February	<b>Force Performance – Sheffield District Summary Update</b>	SYP	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 (2023 - 2025) – Treating People Fairly</b>	SYP	Provide update to PCC re Force progress towards the priority Treating People Fairly in the Police and Crime Plan.
		PCC Decision	OPCC	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
		IEP Assurance Report (27/02/24)	IEP	Provide an overview of the Panel's areas of assurance reporting for PCC's information / action
		JAC Assurance Report	JAC	Provide an overview of the Committees areas of exception reporting for PCC's information / action