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## OPCC PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY

### WARWICKSHIRE POLICE

#### Q2 - September 2020

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# **FORCE PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY**

## **INFORMATION**

The purpose of this report is to formally scrutinise Warwickshire Police's performance during Q2 - September 2020, and in doing so allow informed discussion between the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the Chief Constable (CC) at their forthcoming 'Performance Accountability Meeting' (PAM) on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020. This aim is coherent with the PCC's statutory responsibilities to: -

- Hold the Chief Constable to account for the performance of the force.
- Secure an effective and efficient police service for Warwickshire.

This purpose is also consistent with monitoring the progress made by the force in support of the four key priorities of the PCCs 'Police and Crime Plan 2016 - 2021', namely: -

- i. Putting Victims and Survivors First.
- ii. Ensuring an Effective and Efficient Police Service.
- iii. Preventing and Reducing Crime.
- iv. Protecting People from Harm.

The report has primarily been prepared through scrutiny of the performance data and information provided in the following reports: -

- **App A** - Warwickshire Police Performance Report for September 2020 (Performance Report).
- Weekly Performance Summary 2020 - Week 42.
- Warwickshire Police Performance Dashboard - Updated 19/10/2020

The comments in the Performance Report regarding the new performance framework that is being introducing to compliment the force's 'Fit for Future Strategy' is noted. It is understood that each month there will be an enhanced set of measures across one of the three pillars of that strategy, namely: -

- i. Prevent and Protect
- ii. Respond and Reassure
- iii. Effective and Efficient.

This month the focus is on Prevent and Protect and a number of additional key performance indicators have newly been introduced into the Performance Report.

It should be noted that it is becoming increasingly difficult to identify performance issues and trends through the use of comparative temporal data due to the impact of Covid-19 on the profile of crime.

Where reference is made in this report to data for Year to Date (YTD) and the 'current 28 day period', this is from the latest data available as at the 20/10/2020 in the Weekly Performance Summary 2020 - Week 42. All percentages in this report have been rounded to the nearest integer for the purpose of ease of presentation. Not all aspects of performance are commented upon in this report, only those areas of particular interest.

## PREVENT & PROTECT

### 1. Total Recorded Crime (TRC).

The impact of Covid 19 has reduced the YTD volume of acquisitive crime, this was particularly acute in the early stages of 'lockdown' where restricted movement limited the opportunity to commit such crime. Conversely, increases have been experienced in the categories of Domestic Abuse, Public Order and Drug Offences. This position is consistent with the crime profile across other UK police forces.

The net result of this structural change in the crime profile is that TRC has reduced by -7% YTD for the county, comprising of -6% for north Warwickshire and -9% for south Warwickshire. In terms of the Districts and Boroughs, the range extends from -5% for Nuneaton and Bedworth through to -9% for Warwick.

It is positive to note that these acquisitive crime reductions have continued during the current 28 day period during which Warwickshire continues to remain at the medium Tier 1 level of restriction. As shown in the below table, significant reductions continue to be achieved in the crime categories of Robbery, Burglary Residential and Vehicle Offences: -

CATEGORY	28 days	YTD
TRC	-6%	-6%
Violence with Injury	-3%	-6%
Violence without Injury	+14%	+20%
Personal Robbery	-29%	-24%
Business Robbery	-88%	-69%
Burglary Residential	-46%	-40%
Burglary Residential - National	-44%	-38%
Vehicle Crime	-36%	-26%

### 2. Violence with Injury

Volumes are within the control limits and are close to the mean value.

### 3. Violence without Injury

This category continues to experience the greatest increase with levels at +20% YTD. Due to the high volumes (n=6187) this crime category accounts for 28% of all TRC YTD. Of interest is that the sub-category of Stalking and Harassment accounts for 42% (n=414), with the element of Malicious Communication accounting for 48% (n=199) of this sub-category.

#### **4. Rape**

Volumes are within the control limits and are close to the mean value.

#### **5. Other Sexual Offences**

Volumes are within the control limits and are close to the mean value.

#### **6. Robbery**

In September further reductions were experienced for both Personal and Business Robbery. Of note is that after 8 months of below average volumes, the monthly average for Personal Robbery has now decreased from 38 to 26 offences per month. Whilst these volumes are relatively small, this is a very positive development given that Robbery constitutes a high harm offence.

#### **7. Burglary Residential**

Whilst the volumes of Burglary Residential have increased since the Covid-19 restrictions have eased, they have not returned to pre Covid-19 levels. Of note is that after 8 months of below average volumes, the monthly average has now decreased from 126 to 88 offences per month. Again, a very positive development for this high harm offence.

#### **7. Burglary Business and Community**

The levels for this crime category are significantly below the lower control limit, with a figure for September of 81 offences compared to a monthly average of 158 offences. Of note, is that according to the Performance Report, the monthly average will decrease if this trend continues into next month.

#### **8. Vehicle Crime**

Significant reductions continue to be achieved, such that the figure of 250 crimes for September is now approaching the lower control limit - a position that was last achieved in July 2016!

#### **9. Drug Offences**

The high levels experienced in April 2020 that were above the upper control limit have now reduced towards the mean. Nonetheless, a total of 348 drug offences were recorded during Q2, of which 141 (33%) were classified as Trafficking offences.

Whilst the prevalence of drug abuse in society is concerning, these type of offences seldom come to police attention unless they are actively sought out and as such these figures are viewed as a product of increased proactivity and are a positive development.

#### **10. Possession of Weapons**

A similar position exists with Possession of Weapons where increased proactivity has increased the number of offences, such that after 8 months of above average volumes the monthly average has now increased from 36 to 47 offences per month. Of particular concern however is that the sub-category of Firearms offences accounted for 35% (n=47) of the 131 offences recorded during Q2.

**Q1.** It would be of value to have an assessment from the Chief Constable as to the prevalence of the criminal use of firearms in our communities. Also, to understand how the risk is being effectively identified and addressed?

## **12. Public Order Offences**

Public order has continued to remain high and above the upper control limit throughout Q2. This seasonal effect, as evident from previous years' data, will presumably now start to decline through Q3. Of note however is that the sub-category of 'Racially or Religiously Aggravated Fear, Alarm or Distress' accounted for 74% (n=644) of the 875 public order offences recorded during Q2.

**Q2.** Is this figure for the proportion of racially or religiously aggravated public order crimes correct? If so, how does this impact on the recording and management of Hate Crime?

## **13. Domestic Abuse (DA)**

Whilst DA currently remains within the control limits, it is approaching the upper limit and continues to show an upward trend. Of significance is that DA was a factor in 19% of all TRC and accounted for 40% of all violent crime in September.

**N.B.** Domestic abuse has previously been subject to 'holding to account' scrutiny and discussed at length at previous PAMs, including a 'deep-dive' at the August meeting. Consequently, whilst acknowledging its vital importance, it is not proposed to re-visit this subject again at this time.

## **14. Child At Risk (CAR)**

The levels for CAR continue to remain within the control limits, but are rising. The comment in the Performance Report regarding ASI working with the force's lead for Vulnerability to identify the relationship between the level of risk assessment and the different keywords applied to child investigations is noted, together with the intention to report back in November 2020.

## **15. Road Traffic Casualties**

Road traffic data is provided one month in arrears. There was one fatality for the month of August, a cyclist. Of continuing concern is the disproportionate number of two-wheel users in the Killed, Serious Injury (KSI) figures where they accounted for 25% of the total.

Of note is that 13,193 Notice of Intended Prosecutions (NIPs) for speeding offences have been issued since the beginning April 2020.

**Q3.** The subject of Road Safety is to be considered as a 'deep-dive' topic at this PAM meeting, with reference to the recent HMICFRS report 'Roads Policing: Not optional'. The agreed areas to be explored are: -

- Warwickshire Police's position in respect of the views and recommendations of the HMICFRS report.
- Development of Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment for Roads Policing.

- Commitment to sustained Roads Policing and working in partnership with Warwickshire Roads Safety Partnership, especially Warwickshire County Council and Highways England.
- Demonstrating that well briefed and trained officers from the Roads Policing Unit (RPU) are good at capturing criminals using our roads as well as keeping our roads safe.
- Opportunities for appropriate regional collaboration.
- Effectiveness and efficiency of Operation Snap.
- The force's effectiveness on vehicle recovery, to provide benefits and the removal of vehicles from criminals.
- Reassurance that the Camera Enforcement Unit (CEU). CEU is in a good and resilient position.
- The current position with the second Traffic Management Advisor post that the PCC has funded for the CEU.

## **16. Repeat Victimisation**

In September, 27% of all TRC victims were repeat victims (n=650) representing a slight reduction on the previous month (28%). Of particular note however is that four individuals have been the victim of 20+ (20, 22, 38 and 42) offences within the last 12 months.

**Q4.** Give the scale and varied nature of repeat victimisation across TRC, it is acknowledged that it is a challenging area to broadly address and reduce. However, the force's response to those victims that are considered at high risk and / or the victim of multiple crimes is of particular concern. It would therefore be of value to better understand the force's management of these particular cases and the challenges and success achieved in reducing their repeat victimisation.

## **17. Domestic Abuse Repeat Victimisation**

In September, 38% of all DA victims were repeat DA victims (n=253) representing a slight increase on previous month (35%). A similar position as TRC repeat victims also exists with DA victims in terms of the scale and spectrum of the challenge. The processes and varying degrees of support and intervention provided to DA victims considered to be in the categories of high / medium / standard risk is understood and has been subject to scrutiny and discussion at previous PAMs, including a 'deep-dive' at the August meeting.

## **18. Cyber-Crime**

The volume of Cyber-Crime, identified through Athena keywords, has now reduced to within the control limits. This improvement has presumably been driven by a return to school and work following the end of the summer holidays and an easing of the lockdown restrictions, with a consequential reduction in the amount of time spent online.

The disaggregation of the cyber-crime figures in the Performance Report is illuminating, where in Q2 the largest sub-category by far was the sub-category of Malicious Communications that accounted for 50% (n=231) of all cyber-crime.

## **19. Hate Crime**

Whilst Hate Crime is currently within the control limits, it is approaching the upper limit. Racial based offences for Q2 accounted for 78% (n=214) of all Hate Crime. Of note is that in September there has been a spike in offences in Warwick District (n=43).

The comment in the Performance Report that an analysis of Hate Crime offences will be presented at the Legitimacy Board in October is noted. Undoubtedly the OPCC will return to this subject once that report has been considered.

**Q5. Is the reason for the recent spike in Hate Crime in Warwick District known? What action is being taken to address this increase?**

## **20. Serious and Organised Crime (SOC)**

The data provided in the Performance Report is noted. However, it is difficult to provide comment given the complexity of tackling SOC where qualitative information and narrative is critical to meaningful understanding of the issues.

**Q6. A summary of Operation Scorecard, where the Serious and Organised Crime Unit (SOCU) recently executed search warrants across the county, would be of value in achieving a better understanding of this area of operation.**

## **21. Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT)**

The inclusion of MSHT in the Performance Report is a positive development. The volumes are within the control limits and close to the mean value, with an average of 7 cases per month. The qualitative information provided regarding the work of the MSHT team is of interest and is noted.

## **22. Problem Solving**

The inclusion of Problem Solving Plans in the Performance Report is a positive development. The number of 67 open plans is noted, together with the process for auditing and scoring each to ensure that 'lessons are learned', thereby improving the effectiveness and efficiency of future activity.

## **23. Intelligence Reports**

The re-introduction of Intelligence Reports in the Performance Report is a positive development. The comment regarding the force's aspiration to be able to provide in the future more detail on the quality of intelligence received as well as the thematic areas of intelligence submissions, is noted.

## **24. Stop and Search**

In September, a total of 203 Stop & Searches were conducted and this level of activity is within the control limits and approaching the mean, with a positive success rate of some 30%. This figure represents a significant decrease on the high levels of Stop and Search conducted in May and June 2020 during a period of intensified proactivity.

Of concern is the racial disproportionality that is evident in the rolling 12 month figures: -

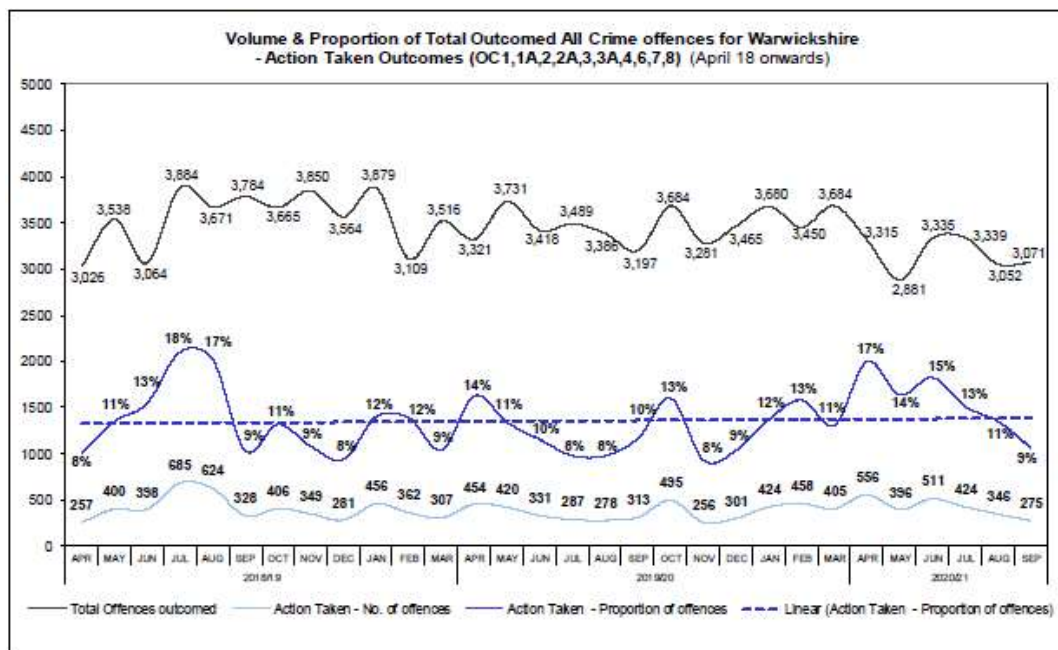
- Black citizens are 13.1 times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white citizen.
- Mixed citizens are 3.4 times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white citizen.
- Other citizens are 2.4 times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white citizen.
- Asian citizens are 2.1 times more likely to be stopped and searched than a white citizen.

**N.B.** The comment in the Performance Report that the Annual Disproportionality Report, which explores some of the issues surrounding stop & search disproportionality, will be presented at the Legitimacy Board in October is noted. Undoubtedly the OPCC will return to this subject once that report has been considered.

## RESPOND & REASSURE

### 1. Outcomes TRC

The Action Taken performance remained above the mean for each month of Q1 (17% / 14% / 16%). There has now been a decrease in performance throughout Q2 (13% / 11% / 9%), as the below graph illustrates: -

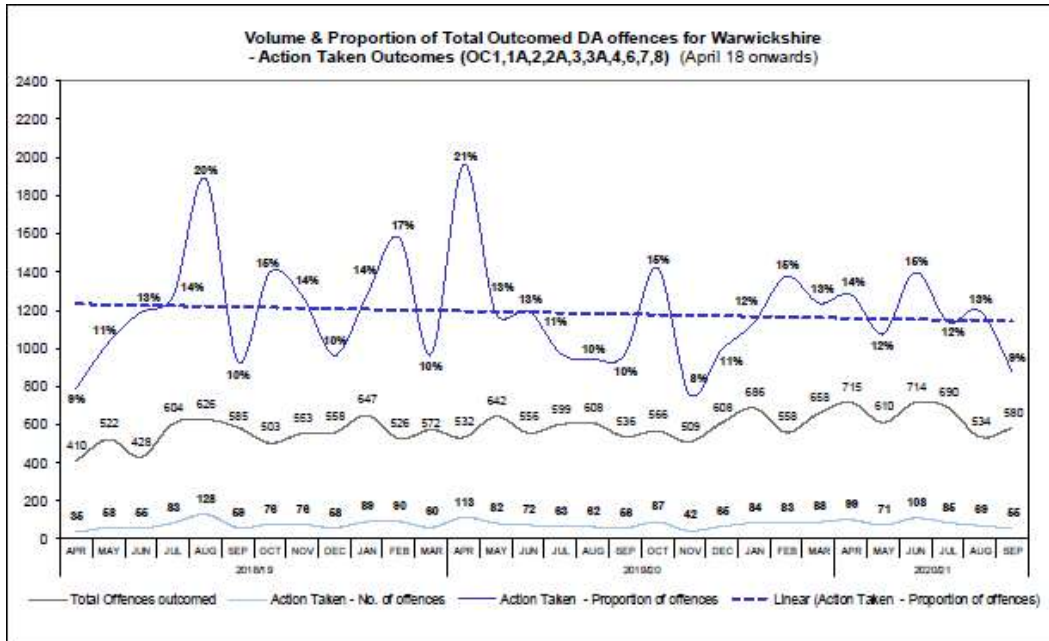


The complexity of Outcomes has been previously explored in the OPCC paper of the same name and at previous PAMs and as such the issues are well understood. It would appear that a contributory factor to the current Action Taken rates is the changing nature of crime during Covid-19, where different crime types have inherently varying prospects for their solvability.

### 2. Domestic Abuse Outcomes

A similar position for DA Action Taken exists as with TRC Action Taken, where in September the figure was also 9%. This represents a decrease when compared to the 13% achieved in August, as the below graph illustrates: -





**Q7.** It would be of value to have an assessment from the Chief Constable as to the causes of the current Action Taken rates for both TRC and DA, together with an understanding of what action is / will be taken by the force to improve this position.

### 3. Victim Satisfaction

The September six-month rolling average levels for victim satisfaction are shown in the below table: -

CATEGORY	% SATISFIED
Burglary Dwelling	88
Violence	75
Vehicle	79
Hate	84
Domestic Abuse	83

The comments in the Performance Report in respect of the victim satisfaction rates for Hate Crime and DA are noted, where the sample sizes across July to September remained very low thereby rendering unreliable figures. Also, that processes are being reviewed to improve the sample sizes whilst maintaining robust safeguarding for the victims.

### 4. Operations Communication Center (OCC)

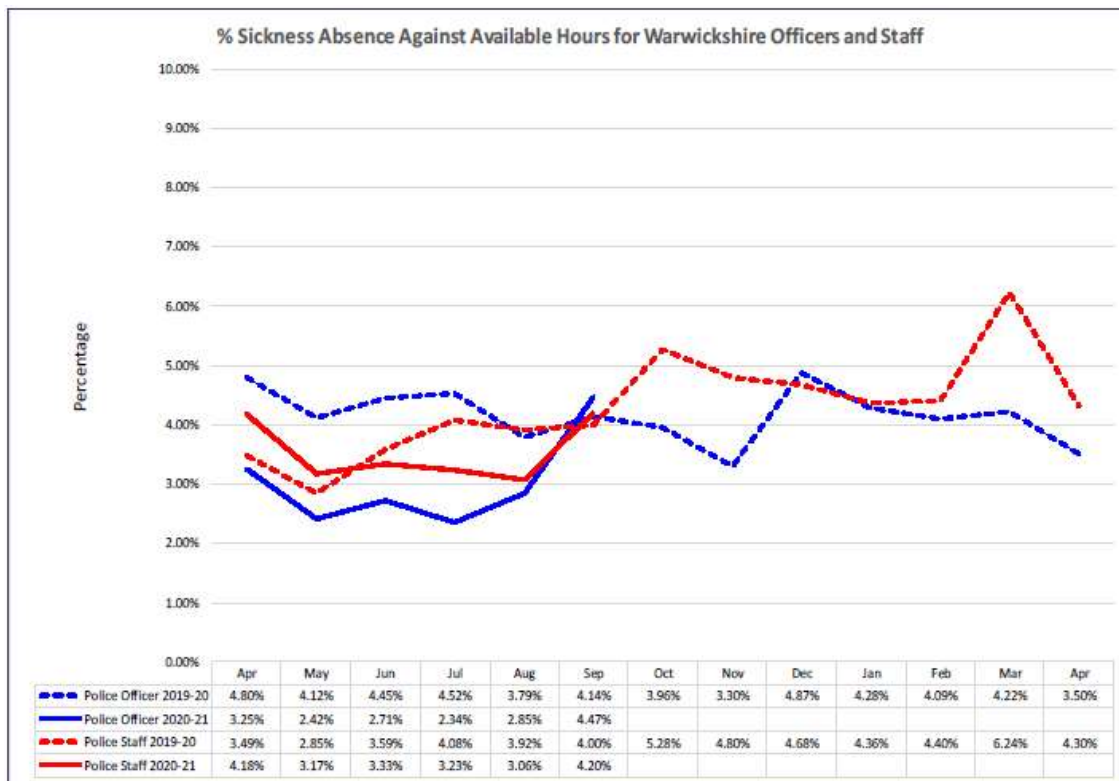
- i. **Emergency 999 Calls** - In September the proportion of 999 calls answered within 10 seconds (82%) has decreased compared with August (85%). Performance is currently below the target (90%) and the baseline (86%).
- ii. **Non-emergency 101 Calls** - In September the average time to answer a 101 call was 1 minute 38 seconds, against a target of 1 minute.
- iii. **Un-resourced Incidents** - The data and stable position is noted.

**N.B.** The performance of the OCC has previously been subject to ‘holding to account’ scrutiny and discussed at length at previous PAMs, including a ‘deep-dive’ at the January meeting. Consequently, whilst acknowledging its importance, it is not proposed to re-visit this subject again at this time.

**EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT**

**1. Absence Levels**

Absence levels are of keen interest to the OPCC as the force journeys through the Covid-19 pandemic. During September there has been an upturn in both police and police staff absences that are now marginally above the levels experienced at the same time in 2019, as illustrated in the below graph: -



**N.B.** Absence levels will continue to be monitored going forward and Health and Wellbeing is to be explored as a deep-dive subject at November’s PAM. The OPCC are cognisant of the force’s robust Covid-19 contingency plans to manage absences and maintain Mission Critical Activities.

**2. Assaults on Police**

Of concern is the level of violence directed at police officers during Q2, where there were 88 assaults on police, of which 30% (n=30) resulted in injury.

**Q8.** What action is the force taken to provide officers with appropriate training and equipment to minimise the risk of physical harm to both the officers and the public.

**COMMENTS**

In summary, It's requested that the Chief Constable provides his professional judgement to the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the key challenges with force performance, particularly in respect of the question posed in this report namely: -

**Q1.** It would be of value to have an assessment from the Chief Constable as to the prevalence of the criminal use of firearms in our communities. Also, to understand how the risk is being effectively identified and addressed?

**Q2.** Is this figure for the proportion of racially or religiously aggravated public order crimes correct? If so, how does this impact on the recording and management of Hate Crime?

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**Q8.** What action is the force taken to provide officers with appropriate training and equipment to minimise the risk of physical harm to both the officers and the public.

- **Proposed Deep-dive Subjects**

Subject to agreement, it is proposed that the PAM deep-dive subjects for additional scrutiny are: -

- i. October Q2 - Roads Policing.
- ii. November - Health and Wellbeing.
- iii. December - TBA
- iv. January - TBA

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Scrutiny and Performance.