PCC Performance Scrutiny – Quarterly (Oct – Dec)

This report has been produced in response to the Warwickshire Police Performance Scrutiny (Q3 2018/19) report, compiled by the Warwickshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

1. Total Recorded Crime (TRC)

Current performance (as at 21/01/19) indicates that Total Recorded Crime (TRC) in Warwickshire is showing a 0.1% increase, year to date. There is a projected year end increase of 3%. Although on the face of it this appears concerning, it must be borne in mind that at the beginning of the performance year the projection for TRC was 7%, (see below table from Q1 performance report), so if 3% is achieved then this would reflect a level of success. Clearly, sustained effort will continue to be made to ensure that any increase, if there is one, is kept as low as possible.

	17/18 Year End	18/19 Projection	Projected % Change
Total Recorded Crime	41486	44279	7%
Violence with Injury	4422	4806	9%
Violence without Injury	7516	9105	21%
Sexual Offences – Rape	517	530	3%
Sexual Offences – Other	949	1025	8%
Business Robbery	76	53	-30%
Personal Robbery	331	349	5%
Residential Burglary - Dwelling	2209	2238	1%
Business & Community Burglary	2298	2051	-11%
Vehicle	4887	5051	3%
Theft from Person	437	496	14%
Shoplifting	3755	3901	4%
Bicycle Theft	958	933	-3%
All Other Theft	4453	4295	-4%
Criminal Damage & Arson	4615	4681	1%

It is also worth re-emphasising the point made in the OPCC's report that the reduction in TRC experienced in Q4 2017/18, following the introduction of Athena, was significant and therefore there will be consequent substantial pressures on performance in Q4 2018/19.

2. Personal Robbery

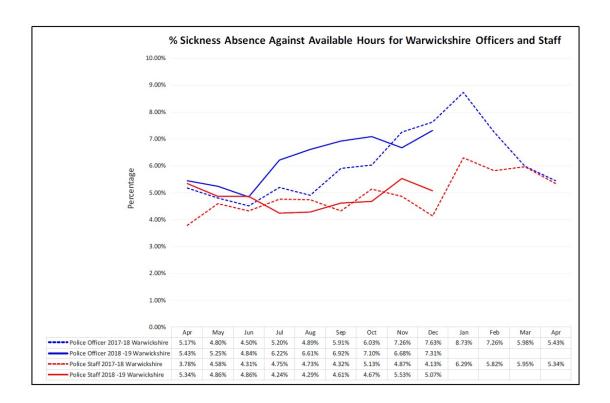
The levels of personal robbery across the County has caused concern over the last quarter. As is correctly identified there was a spike in September, October and into November. The volumes for this type of offence remain relatively low so small variations can show as significant swings in percentage terms. The average rate is 37 offences a month, and volumes peaked at 56 in November and then, as a result of targeted activity and a number of arrests, has fallen back to 41 in December. The end of year projection for robbery remains higher than expected and this will remain a key area of focus for us as we move through Q4.

3. Violence without Injury

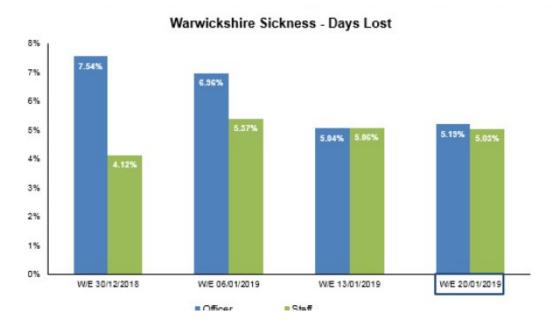
Violence without injury is a significant driver for TRC and represents the largest crime category. At the beginning of the year (as per above table) we were projecting an increase of 21%. This is now showing at 19% so represents an improvement on projections over the first three quarters. This crime category is also particularly susceptible to improvements in Crime Data Integrity (CDI) (i.e. better recording) and our sustained drive towards improving our response to Domestic Abuse. For example, improvements in recording in this category have been seen as a result of better DASH risk assessments and compliance. We will continue to monitor but this is not an area of significant concern.

4. Absence Management

Police officer and staff absence continues to be a concern for the force and is above the preferred level. That said, police officer absence remains below the same period last year and police staff absence is at a similar level.



The most recent data does suggest an improving picture for both officers and staff and we would expect to see this continue into the spring.



There are a range of H&WB activities planned throughout 2019 as part of the year of Health and Wellbeing and it is important to recognise that some forces who have done similar things see a short term increase in absence levels. This is as a result of health screening initiatives and mental health awareness sessions. However, the aim is to then realise a sustainable medium and long term position where the underlying absence rate is at a reduced level.

5. Outcomes

Warwickshire Police recognise that, since the implementation of Athena, Outcome rates have reduced and have not recovered to pre-Athena levels. There are a variety of factors that impact upon outcome rates including investigation quality, crime recording (CDI), demand, skills, shift patterns and resource levels. In attempting to improve outcome rates a number of actions have been taken including sergeant investigation training, removing demand from Patrol, and the implementation of the Incident Progression Team and Investigative Support Team. These have undoubtedly had a positive impact but the challenge remains that as our crime recording continues to improve, and especially in relation to lower level, volume crime, the proportion of those crimes that are 'non-detectable' increases which in turn impacts upon our outcome rates.

There is a monthly outcomes meeting, which the OPCC attends, and all of these issues are considered there including how we can ensure we are maximising our opportunities to detect crime and achieve a positive outcome for the victim.

Ben Smith

T/Chief Superintendent

Warwickshire Local Policing