



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Constable

Date: 08 May 2014

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an operational update to the OPCC. This will cover recent performance, HMIC inspections, crime recording, significant operations (with a detailed update on the Tour de France) and recent good work.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

3. Performance Update

3.1 As a result of increased recording since December 2013, the number of victim-based crimes changed from significantly improved to improved compared to the baseline at year end. A key factor influencing this increase is likely to be the focus on crime data quality and integrity, which has led to improved National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) compliance. Broadly speaking, this trend has been seen across all local policing areas. Cambridgeshire is comparable to its most similar group and recorded the second largest percentage reduction in the Eastern Region in the 12 months to February.

3.2 The Force has continued to see increased recording of violence against the person offences across all areas. March 2014 saw the highest number of offences recorded in any single month since January 2011. This has been influenced by improved crime data quality and compliance to NCRS.

3.3 National figures show that 26 of the 43 forces have seen an increase in violence against the person offences in the 12 months to February 2014. In addition, increased recording of sex offences continues (all but three forces nationally have

this trend) and while an increase is considered to be an indication of public confidence to report such offences, the increased demand as a result of these offences is noted.

- 3.4 Satisfaction with service delivery significantly improved throughout 2013/14; Cambridgeshire performs better than peers in this area.

4. HMIC Inspections Update

Valuing the Police

- 4.1 On the 10th and 11th April 2014, the Constabulary had the Valuing the Police 4 (VtP4) inspection. This is the annual series of inspections that assesses how forces are responding to the spending review.
- 4.2 The results from the verbal debrief provided on the second day were very positive, with HMIC confident that the force has made good progress against the spending review and they have no concerns about our current or future operating model and financial plans. The report has not yet been received, so a formal de-brief cannot currently be provided.
- 4.3 The next inspection will be the crime recording inspection which takes place over 2 weeks, from 27th May to 6th June 2014.

5. Crime Recording

- 5.1 In advance of the crime recording inspection, the Public Administration Select Committee (PASC) published their report into crime recording in April 2014, having taken evidence from a number of sources over previous months.
- 5.2 This report identified a number of significant issues in respect of crime data accuracy and integrity in recording processes in advance of the national inspection by HMIC.
- 5.3 In response to the initial concerns identified last year from the Kent Police inspection into Crime Recording, the Constabulary instigated an assessment of crime recording performance in Cambridgeshire. Following these audits, an action plan was developed and a working group instigated to manage delivery against the action plan, reporting to the Force Performance Board.
- 5.4 The subsequent work undertaken has highlighted that there are areas in which the force needs to improve to address the key themes identified. Scrutiny is being led by the Deputy Chief Constable through the Information Standards Management Group, which meets monthly. A comprehensive communications strategy is being delivered throughout the Constabulary, led by the Assistant Chief Constable.
- 5.5 Representatives from Cambridgeshire Constabulary have visited colleagues in Hertfordshire Constabulary in order to discuss their recent HMIC Crime Data Integrity Inspection. Specific themes were identified which Cambridgeshire had already recognised locally. A few additional issues not previously identified through the work of the working group have also now been incorporated into our Action Plan.
- 5.6 As part of the crime recording inspection, HMIC will be auditing historical data from 2012-13 and records which will pre-date the actions taken and changes in process

and procedure implemented since the formation of the Crime Data Integrity Working Group (which was established in October 2013).

- 5.7 It is therefore anticipated that the approach adopted by HMIC in the force inspections undertaken so far, in combination with the timeframe of data to be audited, will result in some areas for improvement being identified.
- 5.8 Much of the action plan developed by the Crime and Data Integrity Working Group has already been delivered. Changes have been implemented to both systems and processes for crime recording which has improved compliance with the National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS).
- 5.9 The subsequent changes and improvements made will be highlighted to HMIC as evidence of the robust response adopted by the Constabulary to the initial concerns identified at a national level by PASC.

6. Significant Operations

- 6.1 The Constabulary continues to deal with several significant on-going operations as detailed within the March and April operation update and plan for a number of upcoming events.
- 6.2 This update will focus upon Operation Tumber, which is the force response to the Tour de France, being one of the largest sporting events to take place in Cambridgeshire.
- 6.3 The Tour de France is an international cycle race that takes place in July every year. 2014 sees the 101st edition of the race start in the UK. The first 2 stages will be held in Yorkshire, the 3rd stage will start in Cambridge City centre and pass through South Cambridgeshire. District, Essex and enter the Greater London area before finishing in The Mall in Central London. The policing operation for stage 3 is being delivered in co-operation with Essex Police the Metropolitan Police and British Transport Police.
- 6.4 The race attracts a global TV audience of hundreds of millions and event delivery is provided by Innovision, an event management company contracted to deliver the event for stage 3. In this they are supported in Cambridgeshire by the County Council, Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council. There is an expectation that there will be significant numbers of spectators wishing to see the event, many of whom will view Cambridge as an attractive location to do so. In addition local interest in the race is likely to be significant. The day of the race is a working day, which may attract spectators out of workplaces onto the streets whilst the race takes place. Traffic disruption is likely to be significant with road closures in Cambridge City centre being implemented at 0400 hrs and roads in South Cambridgeshire being closed from 0700 hrs and remaining closed for a significant period of the day.
- 6.5 Estimates for visitor numbers along the route indicate there may be in the region of 98,000 people expected in the centre of Cambridge and 27,000 in the outskirts of the City and South Cambridgeshire. Additional numbers may be expected in Parkers Piece where a large screen showing the entire race will be erected. This will remain for most of the day and is expected to be a place of significant focus.

- 6.6 Crowd movements are likely to be concentrated around the routes from the railway station (which will also act as a bus terminus) to the city centre, Maids Causeway (bus terminus) and Queens Rd (bus terminus), into the city centre.
- 6.7 Traffic congestion is likely to be significant for most of the day. Road closures will be implemented in stages from 17:30 hrs on Sunday 6th July 2014. Cambridge City Centre will be closed to all but essential traffic from 04:00 hrs on Monday 7th July 2014. The final tranche of road closures that will divide the South of the city and South Cambridgeshire area are in a line North to South through Shelford and Sawston.
- 6.8 A comprehensive communications strategy has been developed with Cambridge County Council taking the lead. Key stakeholder groups have been targeted to communicate up to date information to relevant organisations. The communications group has plans to target local businesses and residents affected by the route.
- 6.9 Resources allocated to the operation continued to be reviewed on a regular basis and according to the updated threat assessment.

7. Effective and Efficient Policing

- 7.1 A police dog has sniffed out £63,500 worth of drugs and cash in his first four months. TJ, a 22-month-old Springer Spaniel, is part of the specialist dog team from the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Dog Unit. He joined in January after completing his training course in December. Since then, TJ has been on roughly one warrant a day, helping recover drugs from cannabis to cocaine and in the arrests of a number of people. In one raid he discovered £20,000 worth of cocaine and £5,000 in cash.
- 7.2 On 18th April 2014 TJ attended a warrant with the Tactical Team at an address in Cambridge where he sniffed out cannabis, cocaine and cash. A 22-year-old man from Cambridge was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply drugs. He has been bailed until 9th June 2014.

Operation Trinity 2013

- 7.3 Two men who went on a crime spree over a period of months across Cambridgeshire and nearby counties, have been jailed. The men committed 32 offences between August and December last year, including 15 in Cambridgeshire with crimes in this county predominantly focussing upon thefts from convenience stores, newsagents and fuel stations. The duo also burgled Carphone Warehouse in St Neots and O2 in Stamford, stealing large quantities of mobile phones.
- 7.4 The investigation, Operation Trinity, had 32 victims, 151 witnesses, more than 900 exhibits, £170,000 worth of stolen cars and £56,000 worth of stolen cigarettes. On April 16, one offender was jailed for four years and eight months while the other received a sentence of three years and four months.
- 7.5 The court heard the duo would commit dwelling burglaries prior to the principal offences in order to steal high performance vehicles to flee the scenes with stolen property and get them back to the Northampton area. Other offences were

committed in Northamptonshire, Thames Valley, Lincolnshire and Bedfordshire force areas.

Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA)

- 7.6 Criminals across Cambridgeshire have been ordered to pay back more than £2million during the past 12 months. The force's Economic Crime Unit (ECU) has secured 111 confiscation orders totalling £2,171,110, five cash forfeitures worth a total of £106,859 and a further £26,300 seized from drug users and dealers. The orders mean victims of crime are set to benefit from £197,480 through compensation payouts, while the force should receive £449,785 to help its fight against crime.
- 7.7 The previous year's activities saw £609,330 being paid to victims. The force received a further £208,415 to invest back into fighting crime and keeping people safe. Major successes of the ECU since April 2013, include:
- Kevin Hart was ordered to pay £1m in October for his role in an industrial-sized cannabis factory discovered in Haddenham in 2010. He was one of six people convicted in connection with the factory. He was jailed for 10 years and a confiscation order for £1m was secured against him.
 - Nathan Bell had £5,000 in his car when he was stopped by police in London in January 2014. Despite not being charged with any offence, the convicted robber was ordered to hand over the cash to Cambridgeshire police as he had an outstanding order from 2011.
 - The elderly victim of fraudster Mahletchimi Ramudu was finally given the £278,485 stolen from him. The confiscation order was finalised against Ramudu in March 2014.

Rogue Traders

- 7.8 Officers and staff took part in a national week of action against rogue traders. The day of action on Wednesday 9th April involved teams of officers working alongside officers from Cambridgeshire County Council's Trading Standards Service and resulted in three arrests. A 32-year-old man and a 59-year-old man, both from Bluntisham, were arrested on suspicion of fraud, while an 18-year-old man from Cambridge was arrested on suspicion of being involved in a series of frauds.

Roads Policing

- 7.9 A total of 99 people were stopped on suspicion of criminal offences as a result of a tri force roads policing operation. Operation Sentinel, which runs every six to eight weeks in various locations across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, aims to target criminals through their use of the roads and bring offenders to justice.

Operation Sentinel

- 7.10 Thirty officers, 12 cars and a number of motorcycles with Automatic Number Plate Recognition systems and dedicated intercept vehicles were deployed in the city centre and main routes in and out of the city. During the operation officers arrested 12 people and seized a quantity of class B drugs.