



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Constable

Date: 24 July 2014

BURGLARY UPDATE

1. Purpose

1.1 This paper seeks to update the PCC regarding progress within the Force in respect of burglary investigations and particularly the associated satisfaction levels.

2. Introduction

2.1 The PCP details specific actions regarding dwelling burglary.

2.2 These actions are to;

- Implement overt prevention initiatives with partners.
- Target those who persist in committing burglary offences.
- Develop teams of expertise.
- Establish effective predictive and response mechanisms.
- Enhance forensic opportunities to identify offenders.

2.3 Outcomes will be measured by a reduction in the number of dwelling burglaries, improved detection rate, and an increase in percentage of victims who were satisfied with the service provided by police.

2.4 Following a review in October 2013 of burglary investigation within the Force, a delivery plan was commenced to deliver against the PCP objective.

2.5 Recommendations from this review include maximising the number of offences Taken into Consideration (TIC's) , implementation of intelligent dispatch, maximising forensic opportunities with identifications and a consistent overview of TPC District performance.

3. Current position

- 3.1 Burglary performance is now a standing agenda item at the monthly Force senior investigator meetings. Meetings are also taking place at tri-District level.
- 3.2 Cambridge City have adopted the Intelligent dispatch model which consists of deployment between 0800-2100 7 days a week by nominated specialist officers previously notified to FCR staff. These officers normally then investigate the crime themselves which increases ownership. This has brought them in line with Peterborough and Huntingdon Districts.
- 3.3 This approach has been found to be more efficient, using only one resource rather than two, as has previously been the case where initially a Safer Neighbourhood Teams would attend, followed by CID. It has resulted in an increase in overall victim satisfaction as the victim only has to deal with one officer.
- 3.4 Additionally Cambridge City now provide an enhanced response to the immediate community after a burglary report. This consists of PCSO'S delivering crime prevention postcards/ advice to occupants of dwellings within a 200m radius of the victim of the burglary. Although this is more for prevention and awareness than victim satisfaction, it has assisted with community engagement and public perception of the police service.
- 3.5 South Cambs continue to implement the recommendations of the review last year which include intelligent dispatch and targeting known offenders and offending hotspots. They continue to experience the challenge of criminals travelling to commit crimes in their area and are actively progressing with partners the installation of ANPR capability on the main arterial routes away from their area such as the M11.
- 3.6 Fenland have recently introduced an intervention team whose role is to utilise the risk matrix to identify, and then adopt best practice to protect the top five most vulnerable persons within Fenland District. This process is also adopted to target those offenders who cause most harm to our communities, making interventions where appropriate. Officers also work proactively with UK Border Agency (UKBA) colleagues. (A detailed description of this process is provided in the bibliography).
- 3.7 DI Murphy (who covers Fenland and East Cambs) undertakes an intelligence conference call every Thursday afternoon with colleagues from Lincolnshire and Norfolk Police. This has contributed towards targeted enforcement activity towards cross border criminals.
- 3.8 Most districts have dedicated TIC Officers in post who have benefited from specific training. TIC inputs also feature as part of the TDCs induction courses. The volume of reported burglary does not currently justify the creation of a dedicated officer to focus upon TIC opportunities in East Cambs, however strong supervision by the DS

has meant recent positive results in terms of TIC's with a prison production and the Impact team undertake disruption visits of the most prolific offenders.

- 3.9 As part of the July burglary campaign, the “interactive” house is being launched with an associated press release. This is an online tool which has been developed as part of the Constabulary’s “Get Closer” burglary campaign toolkit. It will allow residents to visit key areas of the house to see where they could improve their own security and provide an assessment of their current security arrangements. Additionally it provides a list of useful organisations which offer additional support and guidance for improving home security such as Secured by Design, Immobilise and Neighbourhood Watch.
- 3.10 The interactive house can be accessed via [www.cambs.police.uk/GetCloser/Burglary/CrimePrevention House.asp](http://www.cambs.police.uk/GetCloser/Burglary/CrimePreventionHouse.asp) and is one of a number of burglary tools being launched to help reduce burglaries across the county.
- 3.11 The constabulary has implemented an improved response to victims of burglary through the adoption of a tri force evidence recovery standard developed by the Scientific Support Unit (SSU). This maximises the attendance of Scenes of Crimes Officers (SOCOs) at burglary scenes who then prioritise and ensure that vulnerable evidence is secured at the earliest opportunity. This may involve an initial part examination to allow the premises to be secured and preserved for a further scene attendance the following day. All elements available to scene investigators will be considered to maximise any forensic opportunities.
- 3.13 In June 2014, Scenes of crime attended 100% of all dwelling burglaries in Cambridgeshire (175).
- 3.14 Attendance by Officers to take the report of burglary is risk assessed, based on the vulnerability and availability of the victim. The default position is to attend upon receipt of a report wherever possible.

4 Outcomes

- 4.1 Burglary victim satisfaction is the highest of all crime types surveyed, currently 94.5% at force level in the 12 months to June (satisfaction with the whole experience).
- 4.2 A total of 543 victims of burglary dwelling have been surveyed across the force in the last 12 months. The force has maintained the level of satisfaction above 94% in the last 12 months (based on rolling 12 month data). Discrete month satisfaction has not fallen below 91% in the last 12 months.
- 4.3 In the rolling 12 months to June, burglary satisfaction in all districts is above 90%. In line with the other crime types surveyed, satisfaction with follow up is the lowest aspect, albeit this is 91.7% in the rolling 12 months to June.

- 4.4 The most recent burglary satisfaction (whole experience) data published, for interviews in the 12 months to March 2014, shows that Cambridgeshire is 7th nationally (out of 43 forces). This is a marked improvement from being in 17th position for interviews conducted in the 12 months to June 2013.
- 4.5 The most recent data (interviews in the 12 months to March 2014) shows that Cambridgeshire's performance is higher than peers for satisfaction with the whole experience, police actions and follow up, and is comparable to peers for satisfaction with ease of contact and treatment.
- 4.6 In relation to the Policing in Cambridgeshire (PiC) confidence survey, burglary was raised as a key issue by 5% of the respondents (79/1490) in the six months to May 2014.
- 4.7 South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire are the two areas where the highest proportion of respondents stated that burglary was an issue (South Cambs 25/250 or 10% of respondents and Hunts 19/253 or 8% of respondents). This is in line with the review of local priorities in January 2014 (using data in the 12 months Dec 12 – Nov 13).
- 4.8 Cambridgeshire is performing well for burglary victim satisfaction and has shown improvements compared to peers in the last 12 months.
- 4.9 Dwelling burglary and overall burglary detection levels continue to fluctuate. Last month's detection rate was 18.3% for dwelling burglaries which compares to 17.7% for the same month in 2013. This data is reproduced in the table in the bibliography for reference. The baseline detection rate stands at 19.8 %.
- 4.10 Reports of dwelling burglary have increased by 14.4% (153 up to 175) this month compared to the same month last year. Overall, reporting levels are comparable to the baseline of 2,411 in a rolling 12 months.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 That the Board notes the content of this paper.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document(s)	 Fenland Intervention Team.docx  Dwelling burglary detection rates.docx  Dwelling burglary reports.docx
Contact Officer	Corporate Performance – Cambs Constabulary