



ORIGINATOR: CHIEF CONSTABLE

PAPER NO: AP22/52

SUBMITTED TO: ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL –  
18 NOVEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: TACKLING SERIOUS VIOLENCE

**SUMMARY:**

1. This report will explain the Constabulary's approach to Tackling Serious Violence. It details the current performance, demand and activity with the inclusion of statistical information where relevant.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is asked to consider the progress made by the Constabulary, and raise issues with Chief Constable as appropriate to the PCC's role in holding the Chief Constable to account.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Suffolk's Police and Crime Plan for 2022-2025, clearly sets out the Police and Crime Commissioners commitment to ensuring Suffolk Constabulary meets national policing priority requirements, including the need to reduce serious violence.
- 1.2 The Police and Crime Plan also acknowledges our commitment to meeting forthcoming changes in legislation as contained within the Serious Violence Duty.
- 1.3 Tackling serious Violence features as a priority within the Chief Constable's Force Strategic Plan, 2020 - 2023.
- 1.4 It is recognised that the Constabulary's response to offences involving serious violence is imperative to protecting the public, supporting victims and establishing wider trust, confidence and satisfaction in our service.
- 1.5 Rape and Serious Sexual Offences, domestic abuse, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Robbery could be included within the Serious Violence criteria, however these areas are reported on separately in the Supporting Vulnerable Victims report and therefore activity relative to these offence types is not covered in any detail within this report.
- 1.6 The primary offences this report refers to are as follows:
  - S18 Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH);
  - S20 GBH Wounding;
  - S47 Actual Bodily Harm;
  - Violence without Injury;
  - Knife Crime;
  - County Lines drug offences.

- 1.7 This report also provides highlights of recent force analysis of Violent Crime, in accordance with action 6.7 arising from May's Accountability and Performance Panel Meeting, namely that the 'Chief Constable confirmed that the analysis commissioned to better understand violent crime will be shared with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), and relevant findings included in the Accountability and Performance report in November 2022'. Analysis has also been forwarded to the OPCC.

## **2. GOVERNANCE – SERIOUS VIOLENCE**

- 2.1 There are a number of cross cutting activities relevant to the response to Serious Violence which feature in our approach to seeking continuous improvements in broader crime management performance. In particular, the Constabulary continues to pursue actions which will enhance victim support, offender management, use of protective measures and improvement in investigation standards.
- 2.2 Governance of our response to serious violence continues to be maintained through a number of performance and continuous improvement boards operating both internally, as well as in partnership with stakeholders. Key governance processes as relating to serious violence are summarised as follows:

- Force Monthly Performance Board chaired by Chief Officers;
  - Rape and Serious Sexual Offence operational delivery and improvement boards (police only and joint with CPS, regional forces);
  - Violent Crime Delivery Board;
  - Drugs and County Lines Governance Boards;
  - Domestic Abuse Continuous Improvement Board;
  - Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) steering group, Suffolk Violence and Abuse Partnership (SVAP), Safer Stronger Communities Board;
  - Force Child Protection Delivery Board;
  - Joint Norfolk and Suffolk Investigation Standards Board;
  - Force Vulnerability Board;
  - Joint Norfolk and Suffolk Offender Management Working Group;
  - Joint Norfolk and Suffolk Supporting Victims Working Group;
  - Joint Norfolk and Suffolk Civil Powers Working Group;
  - Eastern Region Strategic Governance Groups (Commodities and Vulnerability).
- 2.3 The Constabulary is closely liaising with Suffolk County Council (SCC) regarding the forthcoming implementation of the Government's Serious Violence Duty. The Serious Violence Duty will require local authorities, the police, fire and rescue authorities, specified criminal justice agencies and health authorities to work together to formulate an evidence-based analysis of the problems associated with serious violence in local areas and implement a strategy detailing how they will respond to those particular issues. Prisons, youth custody agencies and educational authorities may also need to work with these core partners.
- 2.4 Whilst we are still awaiting formal clarification from the Home Office as to the implementation of this duty and processes to enable funding applications, arrangements have been made to commission the Suffolk Office for Data Analytics to commence preparatory analytical requirements. Further work is ongoing to identify respective authority / agency leads who will act to support this duty locally.

### **3. VIOLENT CRIME DELIVERY BOARD OVERVIEW**

- 3.1 A violent crime delivery board was introduced in 2021 and is led by the Constabulary's Head of Crime. It is the primary mechanism for co-ordinating activity to tackle relevant areas of serious violence with support from senior representatives from County Policing Command, Safeguarding, Investigations and analytical departments.
- 3.2 The Board works to a Delivery Plan encompassing five themes:
- Governance, Strategic Approach and Partnership Working;
  - Performance;
  - Communications and Training;
  - Local Delivery;
  - VAWG (crime oversight other than Domestic Abuse/Rape and Serious Sexual Offences).

Key activities include:

- Maximising the use of the Child Exploitation Vulnerability Tracker (CEVT). This contains details of children who may get caught up in gang violence. It details their vulnerability, prevention activities and which partner agencies are involved;

- Development of a violent crime performance dashboard. The first version is now available on the force INSIGHT platform with further developments planned to ensure greater functionality to support operational leads;
- Focus on Out of Court disposals and improving the use of Restorative Justice where appropriate;
- Monitoring and review of His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) publications with regard to thematic findings and identification of best practice;
- Review of deployment plans regarding Night Time Economy (NTE) policing;
- Appointment of Senior Investigating Officers to address significant series;
- Problem Solving Plans added to all relevant Commissioned Profiles at the Force Tactical Tasking Coordination Group (FTTCG);

#### **4. ANALYSIS SERIOUS VIOLENCE 2018 – 2022 (JUNE)**

4.1 In March 2022, the Constabulary's Violent Crime Delivery Board commissioned in-depth analysis of violent crime in Suffolk since 2018, to establish a more informed understanding of longer-term trends and response requirements. Terms of reference for this analysis are summarised as follows: -

- Volume of violent crime categories over the longer term.
- Identification of Violent crime 'hotspots', including that which differentiates between private/residential and public locations.
- Broader trends in victim profiles (age, sex, nationality, ethnicity).
- Establishing patterns in respect of repeat offenders/victims.
- Comparison with most similar forces.
- Identifiable best practice.

The key findings of this analysis were reported internally in late July 2022 are summarised as follows :-

4.2 Summary of key analytical findings: -

4.2.1 Violence with Injury in the year ending June 2022 increased 11.4% compared to the previous 12 months and was more in line with the pre Covid baseline (+2.2%).

4.2.2 In comparison with our Most Similar Force Group (MSG), in the 10 months ending April 2022, Suffolk ranks first, with the lowest crime rate of 6.3 (crimes per 1,000 people) for Violence with Injury. Suffolk sits below the MSG average for Violence with injury crimes across all three time periods analysed.

4.2.3 Levels of Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) and Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) crimes are below the pre Covid baseline.

4.2.4 Knife Crime has increased 6.4% compared to the pre Covid baseline.

4.2.5 Solved Rates for Violence with Injury as a whole as well as ABH and Knife Crime are lower in the 12 months ending June 22 when compared to the pre Covid baseline. The total numbers solved have remained at the same level as the Covid period (twelve months ending June 2021) whilst the volume of crime has returned to pre Covid levels.

4.2.6 Conversely, GBH solved rates have increased in comparison.

- 4.2.7 Hotspot areas for Violent Crime and Knife Crime are Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft.
- 4.2.8 51% of Violence with Injury victims are male and 69% of Violence with Injury suspects are male.
- 4.2.9 When suspects for non-Domestic Abuse (DA) are analysed in isolation there is little change to the proportion of offenders who are male, but the proportion of male victims rises to 62%.
- 4.2.10 When non-DA offenders and victims are analysed in isolation the most frequent age group for both is the under 18s.
- 4.2.11 Further research into Victims and Suspects is planned with case studies for the top three repeat offenders and victims for non-DA offences. This work will look at the investigation timelines and potential escalation of offences.

The following sections provided a more detailed overview of demand, performance and police response relative to serious violence crime categories, including more recent crime data.

#### **Performance Overview - Violence with Injury**

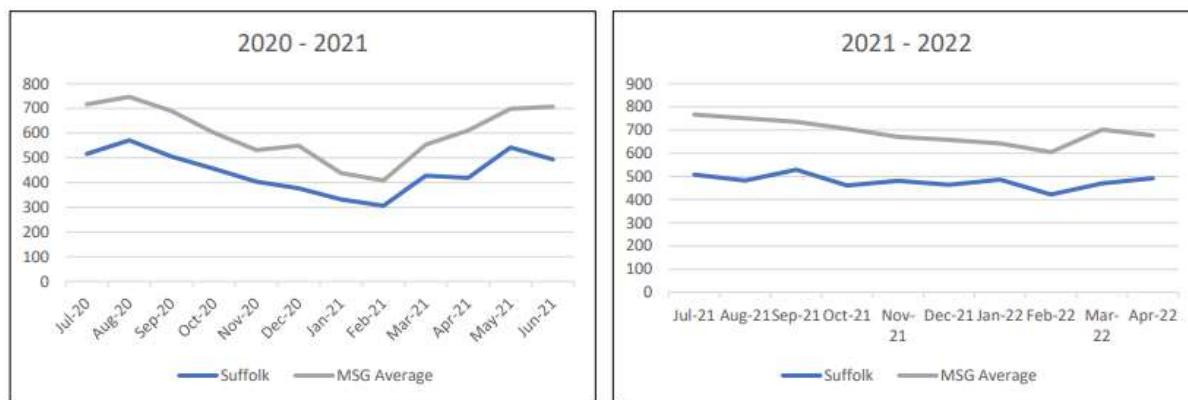
- 4.3 The below chart sets out the latest comparison in volumes of the Most Serious Violence offences against most similar forces and the east of England region over the preceding two years. Whilst Suffolk has seen an increase of 18 offences (6.5%) over the last 12 months against the previous 12 month period (September 20 to August 21), this is in keeping with increases in almost all areas featured furthermore, the rate of increase is below national and MSG averages.

ForceSight		OFFICIAL SENSITIVE Provisional Data not yet finalised and published by the ONS			
Select Force	Suffolk	Select Crime Category	Most Serious Violence		
Earlier Period Starts	Sep-20	Later Period Starts	Sep-21	Change	
Earlier Period Ends	Aug-21	Later Period Ends	Aug-22 <th>Numeric</th> <th>Percentage</th>	Numeric	Percentage
Areas		Earlier Period Sep-20 to Aug-21	Later Period Sep-21 to Aug-22	Change	
England & Wales		35,340	38,471	+ 3,131	+ 8.9%
East of England Region		3,006	3,385	+ 379	+ 12.6%
Bedfordshire	280	299	+ 19	+ 6.8%	
	497	534	+ 37	+ 7.4%	
	1,322	1,543	+ 221	+ 16.7%	
	295	284	- 11	- 3.7%	
	333	428	+ 95	+ 28.5%	
	279	297	+ 18	+ 6.5%	
Most Similar Group		3,345	3,603	+ 258	+ 7.7%
Suffolk	279	297	+ 18	+ 6.5%	
	886	951	+ 65	+ 7.3%	
	473	487	+ 14	+ 3.0%	
	175	155	- 20	- 11.4%	
	333	428	+ 95	+ 28.5%	
	316	332	+ 16	+ 5.1%	
Devon & Cornwall		669	736	+ 67	+ 10.0%
North Wales		214	217	+ 3	+ 1.4%
Number of forces in England & Wales with an increase in this category				32	

- 4.4 To date, Suffolk has seen an increase of 14.7% in the number of Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) offences and 13.7% in Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) offences, over the last

12 months compared to the previous 12 months. However, when comparing this to the longer term average the increase is 3.9% for ABH and 6.8% for GBH. The latter statistics are more reflective of pre-pandemic crime rates.

- 4.5 The current solve rate for ABH is 11.0%, this is 4.1% lower than the long-term average at 15.1%
- 4.6 The current solve rate for GBH over the last 12 months is 28.6%, this is higher than the long-term average by 1.6%
- 4.7 In depth analysis as reported in July 2022 (see Paragraph 4), considered the number of 'Violence with injury' crimes compared to our Most Similar Group force average (MSG). Findings are represented in the two analytical charts below. The MSG line consists of the total number of Violence with injury crimes for all the MSG forces added together and divided by the number of forces (eight). The MSG data was obtained from forcesight, Suffolk and Norfolk data was obtained from CDG. The charts show across both years the MSG average and Suffolk crime figures follow similar patterns with increases and decreases around the same time. In 2021-2022 the Suffolk figures sit further below the MSG average compared to the previous year.



- 4.8 In addition this analysis also considered 'Violence with injury' crime rates per 1,000 population for each MSG force and the rank for each time period (*Population data is based on the mid 2020 population estimates in the 'Home office crime to April 2022', data and used in the forcesight document*). The table below shows Suffolk ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2018-2019 and 2020-2021. In 2021-2022 (until April 2022) Suffolk is ranked first with the lowest crime rate per 1,000 people at 6.3.

Force	2018/2019	Rank	2020/2021	Rank	2021/2022*	Rank
Suffolk	7.7	2	7	2	6.3	1
Warwickshire	8	6	6.9	1	6.5	2
Wiltshire	7.9	4	7.8	5	6.7	3
West Mercia	8	5	7.2	4	7.3	4
North Yorkshire	7.1	1	7.1	3	7.3	5
Devon & Cornwall	8.9	7	7.9	6	7.5	6
Norfolk	7.8	3	8.1	7	7.6	7
North Wales	10.1	8	8.8	8	8.5	8
MSG Average	8.2		7.6		7.2	

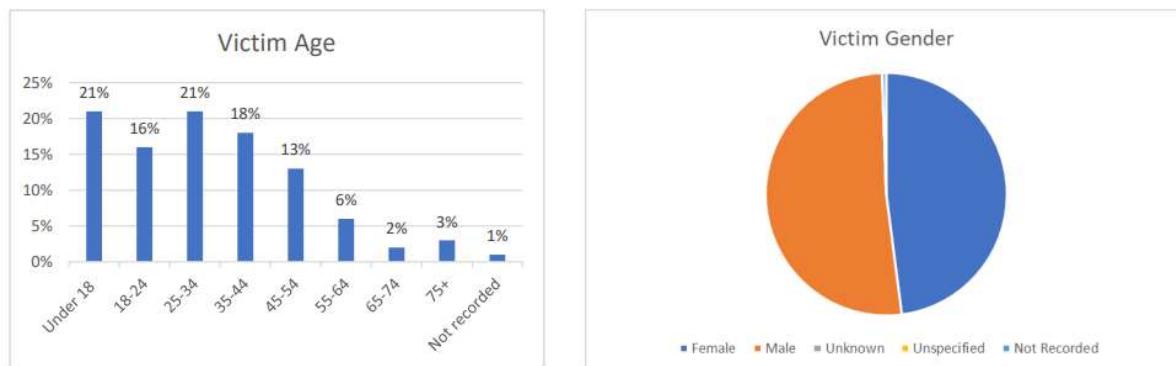
4.9 The table below shows the 'Violence with Injury' solved rates for each MSG force (01/07/2021-30/06/2022). Suffolk has the second highest recorded solved rate at 14.5% which shows there are more positive outcomes relative to the number of crimes in the period, compared to other forces. Suffolk therefore ranks second in the MSG group. The MSG average is 12.7% so Suffolk is sitting above the average. *The Suffolk and Norfolk data has been obtained from Athena via CDG, the remaining MSG data has been obtained from the Forcesight V7 document.*

4.10

Force	Crimes	Positive Outcomes	Solved Rate	Rank
North Wales	7420	1215	16.4	1
Suffolk	5962	863	14.5	2
North Yorkshire	7388	1049	14.2	3
Wiltshire	5996	787	13.1	4
Norfolk	8524	1038	12.2	5
West Mercia	11460	1213	10.6	6
Devon & Cornwall	16311	1685	10.3	7
Warwickshire	4652	464	10	8
<b>MSG Average</b>			<b>12.7</b>	

4.11 The below charts are taken from the Violent crime delivery board product, representing the demographical characteristics of victims of violence with injury crimes, from 01/07/2021 to 30/06/2022.

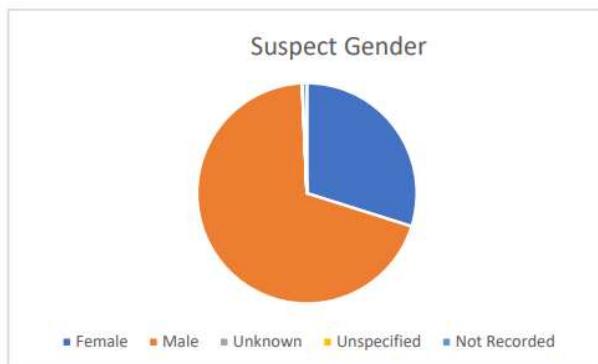
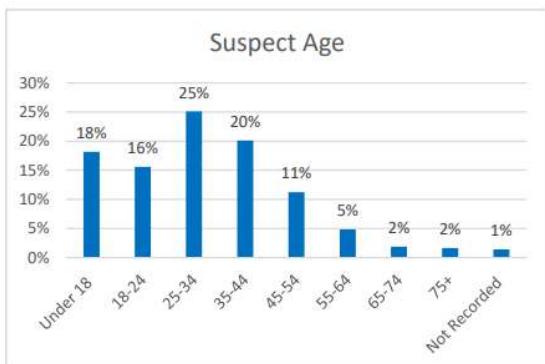
- 51% of victims were male compared to 48% female.
- The most common victim age brackets are under 18s and 25–34-year-olds.
- 32% of victims are victims of a violence with injury crime that is DA related.



4.12 The below charts are the same as the above but for suspects.

- 69% of suspects were male compared to 30% female.

- The most common suspect age bracket is 25-34 year olds.
- 34% of suspects are suspects of a violence with injury crime that is DA related, and of these, 40% were the victim's partner.



## 5. **POLICING RESPONSE - VIOLENCE WITH INJURY**

- 5.1 It should be noted that 70% of violence with injury is recorded as actual bodily harm. A proportion of these cases will amount to a common assault or lesser charge but must be recorded at a higher standard to comply with Home Office counting rules on recording of crime.
- 5.2 The majority of serious assaults (Section 18 wounding and above) are managed by detective resources. GBH account for 6.8% of violent crime offences.
- 5.3 A high proportion (46.2%) of violent crime offences see a suspect identified but no further action taken. This is in large, part accounted for by unwilling victims and the lack of opportunity for evidenced based (victimless) prosecutions. Additional training and upskilling of staff, in particular front line supervisors, has placed an emphasis and encouraged a positive mindset towards maximising opportunities to solve offences with a positive outcome. This has included:
- Front line training on domestic abuse and promotion of best practice for evidence-based prosecutions;
  - Reinforcing the mindset of officers to always consider the best action for victims;
  - Ensuring we are a victim focused and not victim led organisation;
  - Promoting best practice through internal communications and reward and recognition;
  - Introduction of 'missed opportunities' to audits to allow a retrospective review to identify lessons learnt and recover any failures of service;
  - Training to front line supervisors and new supervisors following HMIC recommendations to include investigation standards;
  - The promotion of the Domestic abuse policy in particular the use of detective resources to manage investigations of a higher risk;
  - Robust pursuit of outstanding offenders utilising new analytical tools which enable area commands to target auditing and supervisory interventions for unsolved crimes with linked suspects.
- 5.4 The V-VOL (Vulnerability - Victim/Offender/Location) analytical tool introduced in late 2021, enables operational staff to review persons who are repeat victims and/or perpetrators of assaults as well as the locations offences occur in. This can be accessed by managers and supervisors and is an important tool to identifying threat and risk to persons and places.

- 5.5 Force Tasking and Co-Ordination processes ensure that the Constabulary takes appropriate measures to proactively deal with recurring or high threat issues involving violence. Using V-VOL analysis repeat victims, offenders or locations are identified at Monthly Intelligence Meetings before being brought to the relevant Area Tactical Tasking Coordination Group for consideration of risk and then subsequent allocation of ownership and resource.
- 5.6 This analytical data set also provides us with knowledge of hotspots that we are able to include in our night time economy briefings. We can ascertain if these incidents are related to violence and therefore deploy resources accordingly in an effort to mitigate the risk. The briefings are reviewed regularly to ensure they are relevant. There are a number of initiatives regarding our response to night time economy activity and its links to violence such as:
- NTE plans in all areas (East, South and West) directing officers to patrol locations of high harm offences and routes out of town, as these are locations can be other than directly outside licenced premises;
  - Efforts county wide working with partners, for example Body Worn Video (BWV) being utilised by door staff and ensuring Security Industry Authority (SIA) licences are current. Establishing taxi marshals in areas where there is high footfall. Educating closed-circuit television (CCTV) operators around vulnerability and how to spot those that may be at risk of violence as a result;
  - Joint visits with local councils and our licencing teams to enforce licensing conditions and using specialist equipment for drug detection which can also be linked to violence;
  - Project Servator deployments to key locations to target those with ill intent and to provide reassurance to the public, through positive engagement;
  - Local VAWG plans that support officers/staff in identifying those that may be vulnerable. Looking to achieve best evidence and positive action to ensure victims feel supported and to maximise our opportunities for positive outcomes, therefore increasing public confidence in tackling these issues.
  - Working with communications departments both internally and externally to promote safety amongst all demographics, including initiatives such as 'Ask Angela'.
- 5.7 The following are two recent examples of co-ordinated responses to tackling violent crime threats: -

#### **Operation Hull**

- This operation was commissioned in mid-2022, to ensure a co-ordinated and prioritised response to tackling increases in serious violence in the Ipswich area primarily involving youths affiliated to gangs. Serious instances of violence had included use of machetes to inflict harm on opposing gang members.
- This operation remains a force priority and has benefitted from senior operational manager oversight, pooling of local policing resources to create a dedicated team to investigate offences and partnership work focusing on preventative activity.
- Monthly meetings are chaired by the Southern area Superintendent with internal partners (investigations, intelligence, neighbourhood teams and offender management/gang officers).
- A separate monthly meeting with external partners (including Public Health, Education, Youth Justice Service, Community Safety Partnership, Local Authority, Child Exploitation Hub) has been established to build a bespoke plan to tackle or limit offending of known subjects resulting in growing partner engagement and related activity to support Operation Hull. This has included partners undertaking, gap analysis, mapping current provision, identifying funding streams and engagement with service users.

- There are now five pilots running as a result of Operation Hull, both to identify provision and ensure it meets service user needs
- Engagement with the probation service has resulted in a key offender who posed a threat to others being recalled for a breach of conditions by probation service.
- Youth Justice Service have agreed to facilitate Non-Crime diversion for all under 18s scored under Operation Hull and are considering opportunities to bid/utilise external funding streams for future provision’.
- Education have scoped lesson plans and third agency support in primary and secondary education and are benchmarking against other counties and materials available.
- Specific pilots will address over 18 cohort, and in particular 18-24 year olds. This is supported by Public Health and Probation.
- An investigation arm headed by a Senior Investigating Officer to deal with all linked offending has been extremely productive. Since July 2022 the dedicated Operation Hull investigation team have dealt with 32 offenders with 23 being charged and remanded into custody.
- Civil Orders and protective measures are also used proactively on persons subject of this operation.
- The internal and external partnership approach to Operation Hull has seen a significant drop in violence through a proactive approach of warrants, arrests and enforcement of linked drug supply activity by the subjects.
- This operation is to be subject of independent external review to ensure all opportunities to disrupt, prevent and prosecute offenders are pursued and lessons learnt for future performance improvement across the force.

### **Operation Ventnor**

- Operation Ventnor is another example of a force commissioned operation to tackle serious youth violence, linked to drug dealing, amongst known youths in west Suffolk
- A partnership approach has been developed using a number of different tactics.
- Multi agency Anti-Social Behaviour meetings include a standing agenda item to consider persons of interest to Operation Ventnor, to ensure that housing, health and education partners are involved in problem solving approaches.
- All persons of interest to this operation are subject to triage by Multi Agency Child Exploitation meetings and some of those on the periphery are working with the Criminal Exploitation Hubs provided by Suffolk County Council (SCC)
- Successful CCTV bids have led to SCC providing and fully funding (£4.5k) two new cameras, 1 mobile and 1 fixed to be utilised at an identified repeat offending location.
- Local Authority CCTV operators are involved information sharing and this has directly contributed to positive action, including the arrest of a person of interest to this operation.
- Intelligence provided by Housing is being used to build a case for an ASB injunction.
- This operation will continue to ensure a co-ordinated approach to tackling individuals who present a higher risk of using violence.

## **6. PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW VIOLENCE WITHOUT INJURY**

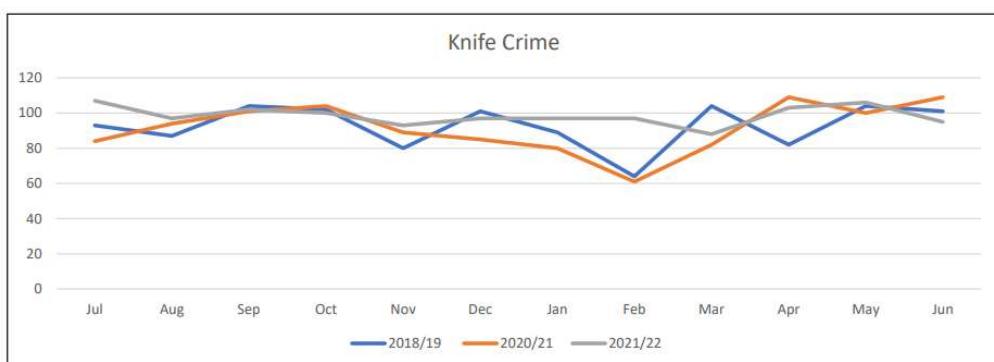
- 6.1 There has been a 7.2% increase in violence without injury offences over the last 12 months compared to the long-term average.
- 6.2 Suffolk’s solved rate for violence without injury is 10.1% and this represents a decrease of 1.4p.p compared with the long-term average.

## **7. POLICE RESPONSE VIOLENCE WITHOUT INJURY**

- 7.1 A number of the activities listed as part of the response to violence with injury apply to lower levels of violence.
- 7.2 Key however is the drive to improve standards of volume crime investigation, to ensure that opportunities are not missed to achieve positive outcomes. Activity consisting of training, communications, audit and scrutiny will continue to ensure:-
- Improvements in consistency and effectiveness of crime supervision;
  - All reasonable lines of enquiry are pursued by investigating officers;
  - Processes are robust to ensure that summary only offences are progressed within statutory time limits;
  - Out of court disposals and community resolutions are considered to reduce cases where no further action is taken;
  - Accurate application of crime recording and counting rules;
  - Pursuit of Outstanding Suspects.

## **8. PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW KNIFE CRIME**

- 8.1 The following chart is based on long term analysis and shows the number of Knife crimes over time. The lines represent three comparable time periods, the most recent 12 month period ending June 2022, the previous 12 months ending June 2022, and the same period pre-covid (July 2018 – June 2019).



- 8.2 As stated, geographical analysis of knife crime locations show greater concentrations in urban areas, notably main population centres of Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft.

## **9. POLICING RESPONSE KNIFE CRIME**

- 9.1 The Violent Crime Delivery Board oversees activity to counter the threat of knife crime. Work is ongoing to refresh the Information Sharing Agreement between local hospitals and police so that information relating to suspected serious violence is referred to police in a timely and effective manner, including potential knife crime related offences.
- 9.2 As described at paragraph 5.6, each area command maintains and executes a 'Night Time Economy' plan which focuses on hotspots of violence linked to licensed premises and any knife crime related intelligence.

### **Operation Sceptre**

- 9.3 The Constabulary continues to actively participate in Operation Sceptre, a national initiative focusing on 'weeks of action' to tackle knife crime. In May 2022, operation Sceptre activity resulted in:-
- Three arrests;
  - Seven knife related warrants executed;
  - Intelligence led stop searches;
  - Comprehensive communication and media plan delivered in partnership with Local Authority;
  - Schools Liaison Officers and Community Engagement Officers supported 15+ events in schools and colleges;
  - Numerous weapons sweeps occurred;
  - 336+ knives and bladed items were recovered from the knife surrender amnesty bins.
- 9.4 The next Op Sceptre week of action will commence on the 14th November 2022. Plans are in place to ensure there is a focus on young persons with numerous school engagement activities as well as the revival of the 'Bin a Blade' campaign. Enforcement activity is also being planned in conjunction with Trading Standards, British Transport Police and will include targeted work on known offenders or locations of interest identified through analysis.

### **Operation Assurance**

- 9.5 Operation Assurance is Suffolk's response to the importation of 'legal' knives in partnership with Border Force.
- 9.6 This operation recognises that knives that cannot be controlled under importation legislation can still pose a significant risk to the public and provides a process for information/intelligence to be received by police forces and proactively acted upon where appropriate.

## **10. COUNTY LINES**

- 10.1 County Lines refers to drug dealers from other areas, mainly originating from London who conduct their business in shire counties such as Suffolk. The business is conducted by mobile phones and often uses local drug users and or vulnerable people to facilitate the activity. On occasions this includes the use of 'cuckooing', the taking over of a local drug users house to act as a base for the dealing. County Lines is often associated with criminal exploitation and can involve serious violence.
- 10.2 Suffolk Constabulary has a clear governance structure for maintaining accountability and delivery of drug related activity in tackling supply and harm caused, this is through Suffolk Drugs Board, chaired by Chief Superintendent (CPC) and Operation Velocity which is headed by a Detective Superintendent (CSIM) focusing on enforcement activity.
- 10.3 County Lines are identified through both intelligence and evidence-based activity. Tier 1 lines are then scored through a Matrix which considers risk and harm, including serious violence and weapons.
- 10.4 Currently in Suffolk there are seven Tier 1 County Lines.

### **Operation Orochi**

- 10.5 Operation Orochi is a Metropolitan police led initiative, this is one operation whereby information and tactics are shared with county forces. The aim is to identify and arrest the individual controlling the relevant mobile phone. Suffolk Constabulary's Serious Crime Disruption Teams (SCDT) take on this responsibility and since May 2022 they have continued to achieve significant successes including:
- 17 County Lines disrupted;
  - 19 Line Holders of County Lines arrested and charged;
  - 12 Line holders of County Lines convicted and sentenced;
  - 24 years in prison sentences for Line Holders;
  - 15 Line Holders awaiting sentence after pleading guilty (since Jan 2022);
  - 1 Slavery trafficking prevention order obtained (first in the region);
  - 2 Line Holders charged with Modern Slavery offences;

### **Operation Pester**

- 10.6 Operation Pester is a tactic used in partnership with service providers and public health, where mobile phone numbers found on mobile phones seized from County lines holders are sent a text offering health advice, Crimestoppers details and awareness from a police perspective that their number was found on a supplier's phone. This has been deployed once in Suffolk with some positive early results provided from Turning Point reporting users seeking support. Plans are in place to deploy again with metrics to measure success.

### **Operation Magpie**

- 10.7 Operation Magpie reviews numbers found on Class A drug users' phones with the aim to identify common suppliers and target them with enforcement. This takes some analytical work and is being deployed in Suffolk in Autumn 2022.

## **11. OFFENDER MANAGEMENT**

- 11.1 Effective offender management is critical to prevention of offences as well as victim and public confidence and satisfaction.
- 11.2 Offender Management is reported on separately for accountability and performance purposes and as such only key updates are provided in this report.

### **Power-Bi – suspects dashboard**

- 11.3 The Constabulary has also developed an Outstanding Suspects Dashboard using software that will allow officers to view a list of the current outstanding suspects. This will assist with effectively prioritising the most dangerous or persistent offenders using a crime severity scoring mechanism.
- 11.4 All commands are currently prioritising those cases which are over 28 days old and where suspects have been identified and outcomes pending.

### **Integrated Offender Management**

- 11.5 The Integrated Offender Management Scheme is a National Initiative which is locally known as the 180 Team. The team works to protect the public from offending and reduce demand on policing resources by working with partners to provide prolific harmful offenders with the opportunity to break away from the cycle of offending.
- 11.6 The team works with offenders in conjunction the National Probation Service through a number of pathways which are proven to contribute to the cycle of offending. This includes accommodation, substance misuse, debt and finance, mental and physical health, family and relationships, thinking skills, education and training, and associates
- 11.7 Offenders on the scheme are identified by referrals into the scheme and an assessment based on their offending history, information and intelligence held on police systems, complexity of needs, and the risks they present, is undertaken to ascertain their suitability for adoption. During that process if a trigger offence is linked to domestic abuse then an assessment whether a 'Claire's Law' disclosure is required to any new partners.
- 11.8 The scheme is looking to adopt youth violent offenders in the future to create recognized pathways to reduce offending from a young age. Other considerations in respect to the adoption of domestic abuse and violent offenders is being considered although there are already schemes to manage DA perpetrators and reduce offending.
- 11.9 Suffolk has a total of 115 offenders on the cohort consisting of 13% females and 87% males, with 59 in prison, and 56 outside of prison. 46% of the offenders are aged between 25-34 years of age.

### **Protective Measures**

- 11.10 In 2021 a Detective Chief Inspector was appointed to lead improvements to the Constabulary's operational use of ancillary orders and protective measures. This is recognised as key to managing offenders and tackling all forms of criminality not least from perpetrators of serious violence.
- 11.11 A joint Norfolk and Suffolk Civil Orders Working Group continues to meet to oversee activity to maximize the effective use of civil orders. As part of this working group, monthly meetings are held command leads to monitor progress in relation to Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs)/Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) and Stalking Prevention Orders (SPOs) and ancillary orders and to ensure best practice is shared and alignment between force approaches is achieved.
- 11.12 Single Points of Contact (SPOC) have been identified for respective preventative orders across both Norfolk and Suffolk and work has been progressed via the civil orders delivery group to drive performance improvement. This has included: -
  - Athena Recording – Communication with staff to ensure consistent and accurate Recording of Civil Orders;
  - Management of Orders;
  - Awareness Raising & Guidance (including the Development of a composite civil orders/protective powers Toolkit, which is being reviewed by legal services);
  - Regular Performance Data extracted from Athena (Removing previous manual processed adopted by individual teams and SPOCs).

- 11.13 Guidance material on Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs), Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) and Stalking Protection Orders has been created and has been promoted force wide. The use of these and other orders will continue to be promoted alongside other initiatives such as the 'white Ribbon campaign'.
- 11.14 Awareness raising, and guidance will continue to be a focus for both Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies and further activity will be coordinated via the joint civil orders working group.
- 11.15 Performance in relation to Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs), Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) and Stalking Protection Orders is now routinely monitored with monthly data being utilised. There has been a demonstrable improvement in use of key preventative measures namely Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs), Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) and Stalking Protection Orders.
- 11.16 In 8 months from January to August 2022, the following orders were obtained:

Domestic Violence Prevention Notice (DVPN)	41
Domestic Violence Prevention Order (DVPO)	27
Sexual Risk Order (SRO)	2
Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO)	53
Stalking Protection Order (SPO)	8
Non-molestation Order (NMO)	53
Forced Marriage Protection Order (FMPO)	0
Female Genital Mutilation Protection Order (FGMPO)	0
Slavery and Trafficking Prevention Order (STPO)	0
Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order (STRO)	2
Violent Offender Order (VOO)	1
Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO)	0
Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO)	1
Community Protection Notice (CPN)	44
Civil Injunctions	0
Other Orders	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>243</b>

11.17 At time of this report being compiled, the Constabulary is still awaiting the outcome of a formal application submitted to the Home Office in May 2022, to be a pilot force for forthcoming Domestic Abuse Protective Orders legislation. The Constabulary has been advised that the pilot commencement has been delayed nationally to spring 2024, and a decision is awaited as to whether the Constabulary will be selected.,

## **12. COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS**

- 12.1 It is recognised that effective communications are central to achieving improvements to victim and public confidence and satisfaction.
- 12.3 Among the communications activities which have taken place over Spring and Summer 2022, or are planned for the next six months, are: -
- Support of the first phase of Home Office's Enough campaign and the second phase of Police Scotland's Don't Be That Guy campaign. These are aimed at preventing violence against Women and Girls;
  - Publishing charges/court case results involving offences of violent crime;
  - Promotion of the work done to tackle county lines/human trafficking by our Sentinel Teams;
  - Supporting Operation Hull – an operation in Ipswich targeting drugs and those involved in gang/knife crime. This includes producing social media videos of warrants being carried out;
  - Continuous and ongoing engagement with local media regarding interviews on all areas of violent crime – with the emphasis on violence against women and girls (Inc. support available/commitment to pursuing perpetrators), and gang-related/knife crime;
  - Promoting results of County Lines Intensification Week;
  - Internal and external support of Hate Crime Week;
  - Internal and external support for White Ribbon Campaign in November;
  - Social media video and press release showing the work we do to support domestic abuse victims;
  - Exploring potential to work with Ipswich Town Football Club and local media in a joint campaign aimed at dissuading young people from being involved in gangs, gang crime, and knife crime.

## **13. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1 At the time of this report being compiled, the Constabulary is actively looking to pursue a bid for Home Office funding to support local Homicide Prevention requirements. A task and finish group has been assembled to ensure this bid is submitted by the deadline set of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022, and details will be forwarded separately to the OPCC.
- 13.2 In addition, the Constabulary is currently awaiting further details as relate to accessing government funding to support the local implementation of the Serious Violence Duty.
- 13.3 As outlined, in accordance with HMICFRS and linked national recommendations the Constabulary continues to pursue the increased uptake of protective measures. In the absence of in-house legal services, year on year costs will continue to rise.

## **14. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

- 14.1 In accordance with the update provided in this paper, the Constabulary is preparing to work with partner agencies to ensure it meets forthcoming statutory obligations as set out in the governments Serious Violence Duty.

- 14.2 As reported in the report to the Panel in May 2022, the current levels of experienced Professionalising Investigation Programme (PIP) 2 detectives remains a concern. Whilst the fast-track Detective Entry Scheme has been a success; the net result is a steady erosion of experience over a sustained period. Op UPLIFT resulted in a number of departments, and partner law enforcement agencies such as the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit (ERSOU), increasing their establishment of detectives. Given that none of these entities recruit new officers, their uplift has continued to impact on the loss of experienced detectives operating within the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and safeguarding investigation teams. There are ongoing efforts to recruit suitably qualified PIP1 resource to become trainee investigators and the Constabulary has also received dispensation from the College of Policing to recruit an additional cohort of twenty track detective student officers who will join the Constabulary in March 2023.
- 14.3 2021 saw the introduction of DG6, a set of new instructions from the Director General relating to disclosure. This combined with a number of new CPS requirements relating to ATHENA case has made file completion for charging significantly more complicated and time consuming. Whilst our detectives have adopted all of the new requirements, it should be noted that there is a noticeable continuing decrease in morale and confidence in their individual ability to complete an investigation within acceptable time limits. The Crime, Safeguarding and Incident Management (CSIM) department has its own wellbeing plan which addresses some of these issues. However, this and associated operational demand is such that recruitment and retention of detectives remains an ongoing and significant challenge both locally and nationally.