



OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR THAMES VALLEY

PCC PROGRESS REPORT TO THE THAMES VALLEY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 20th November 2020

Police and Crime Plan Strategic Priority 2: **Prevention and Early Intervention**

I ensure delivery of my Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 objectives by holding to account Thames Valley Police (TVP) and other PCC-funded and commissioned service providers for their delivery of specific operational policing, crime reduction and community safety objectives.

The Chief Constable produces an Annual Force Delivery Plan which complements and supports my Police and Crime Plan. I attend monthly Service Improvement Reviews across Local Policing Areas in Thames Valley and Force Performance Group meetings whereby I can witness the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) holding relevant operational personnel to account for their performance in delivering their specific aims, objectives and targets. Furthermore, at my quarterly 'Level 1' public meetings I hold the Chief Constable to account for delivery of operational policing against the Force's Annual Delivery Plan.

In respect of **Strategic Priority 2 ('Prevention and Early Intervention')** my objective is to improve safeguarding of children, young adults and people with multiple needs in physical and virtual space, with particular emphasis on the following areas:

- Cyber and digital crime ('Cybercrime' for short)
- Young people at risk
- Perceptions of crime
- Whole place approaches.

My Police and Crime Plan sets out the following '**Key Aims**' for addressing Prevention and Early Intervention:

1. **Coordinated efforts by police and partner agencies to improve public awareness of measures to protect themselves from cybercrime, particularly targeting those most at risk (such as those at either end of the age spectrum)**
2. **Increased focus by all agencies on preventing and tackling 'peer on peer' abuse.**
3. **A coordinated strategy between police, health and local authorities to tackle FGM in Thames Valley, leading to improved reporting of FGM and evidenced approaches on prevention.**
4. **Improved reporting and understanding of the prevalence and nature of hate crime across Thames Valley.**
5. **Police and partners address road safety concerns, especially amongst vulnerable groups such as younger people, cyclists and pedestrians.**
6. **Improved use of technology by police, in order to prevent crime and support earlier intervention with known offenders.**

I have summarised below the cumulative progress to date (Year 4, 2020/21, to end of Qtr. 2) on the delivery of the above, four-year, Police and Crime Plan 'Key Aims'.

2019/20 PROGRESS ON DELIVERY OF STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 'KEY AIMS'

(as at Year 4, 2020/21, Qtr. 2)

1. Coordinated efforts by police and partner agencies to improve public awareness of measures to protect themselves from cybercrime, particularly targeting those most at risk (such as those at either end of the age spectrum)

TVP Delivery Plan actions & progress:

2020/21:

- The newly formed Economic Crime Unit Criminal Finance Team continues to maximise use of Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) powers and is in the early stages of a number of money laundering investigations. Of note is Operation Hedge, where restraint orders have been successfully applied to a large sum of money in bank accounts suspected to have been obtained through 'romance' frauds. TVP have increased their use of civil powers in relation to POCA Account Freezing orders and currently have freezing orders in place in relation to over £1 million of suspected criminal cash held in banks accounts.
- In May 2020, Thames Valley Police responded to two banking protocol reports which resulted in suspects being arrested. The victims from both offences have been provided with enhanced safeguarding and fraud prevention advice.

2019/20:

- Operation Signature (financial abuse safeguarding) continues to develop and improve through operational learning gained from an ongoing assessment of our response to identified potential vulnerability. TVP has an ongoing formal programme of internal training across the organisation which embeds the knowledge needed to conduct effective safeguarding and gives clear guidance of the organisation's expectation that this work is a priority.
- Organised by TVP and Oxford Brookes University, a Security and Crime Prevention Fair took place at the university as part of Fresher's week, focusing on fraud. TVP Fraud Prevention Officers attended the event to equip students with practical skills on how to keep themselves, their property and their money safe.

2018/19:

- The Economic Crime Unit, in partnership with Oxford Brookes University and Santander, delivered a fraud protection programme in relation to avoiding becoming 'money mules'.
- Aylesbury LPA ran a neighbourhood watch pilot in conjunction with NHW Thames Valley and using Home Office funding to utilise volunteers to offer fraud prevention advice to the elderly.
- Since the launch of the Banking Protocol in the Thames Valley in February 2018, £602,000 worth of fraud has been prevented and a total of 73 emergency calls have been responded to through the scheme. The scheme has protected vulnerable people, stopped the money of innocent victims falling into criminal hands and investigations are ongoing to bring offenders to justice.
- The South East Regional Organised Crime Unit has spoken to more than 6,500 people from over 2,000 organisations, providing Cyber Protect & Prevent advice. A widespread national social media campaign reached more than 2 million people with cyber protect

and prevent messages. The team also worked with TeenTech, an organisation that encourages teenagers to take up a career in science, engineering or technology, to develop a package teaching the positive and ethical use of computers. More than 4,000 teachers and professionals working with young people have been provided with advice to remove the risk of children offending.

2017/18:

- All LPAs offered cyber and fraud prevention material for frontline officers.
- The Cyber team made a dedicated resource in the Economic Crime Unit (ECU), providing a point of contact for advice for front-line officers investigating a crime with a cyber element.
- Force promoted, through radio interviews and social media posts, the 'Little Book of Cyber Scams'.
- CCMT (Chief Constables Management Team) agreed, in July 2017, proposals for Force activity in relation to Operation Signature, to provide targeted safeguarding and crime prevention activity for victims identified via Action Fraud. Funding in support of this activity was provided by the PCC
- Use of the Special Constabulary to support victims and educate the public on cybercrime and fraud prevention being maximised. Twelve Special Constables with ICT backgrounds were identified to help deliver community support around cybercrime.
- The Force undertook a comprehensive review and refresh of operational guidance concerning how to deal with cybercrime, with a focus on the young and elderly. This guidance will include guidance on how officers can support victims of cybercrime to help reduce becoming a repeat victim.
- The Thames Valley Cyber Crime Strategy was produced for adoption by Community Safety Partnerships to help deliver cybercrime awareness training to community groups.
- The Force was successful in its bid for Office of the PCC cybercrime grant funding for Alter Ego Productions to produce a bespoke theatre piece looking at healthy relationships online and performed to Year 6 students in 2018.
- The #Protectyourworld cybercrime campaign was launched in November 2017, focusing on groups that have been identified as vulnerable online, including young people, older people and small businesses. The activities included staying safe online competitions for under 18s, online safety Q&A sessions for the public and an online safeguarding attended by 150 professionals working with vulnerable children and young adults.
- More Crime Scene Investigators (CSIs) were trained in the Spektor forensic intelligence package to deal with cybercrime.
- Part 2 of the Hidden Harm campaign was launched focussing on online child abuse, which incorporated National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day. The campaign included two videos, produced in-house, providing guidance on how to set up parental controls on the Xbox and PS4.
- The second phase of the Cyber Crime campaign #ProtectYourWorld, launched in February 2018, aimed at young people and their parents or carers to keep them safe online. This included support from a range of partners including numerous councils,

Oxfordshire Army Cadets, Berkshire Community Foundation, South East Regional Organised Crime Unit (SEROCU), Clearly Speaking (a support service for those with Autistic Spectrum disorders and other associated difficulties) and Safe! (Support for young people affected by crime). An online live Q&A delivered as part of the campaign, in partnership with the NSPCC, resulted in over 12,000 views.

OPCC initiatives & progress:

2020/21:

- The programme of works under the Home Office Early Intervention Youth Fund was completed between end March and end June across the Thames Valley with all submissions on time and complete and all funding spent. A full evaluation report was also delivered to the Home Office including lessons to be learned about commissioning and managing projects that work with young people at risk of criminal involvement and also how to best utilise the strength of existing partnership networks for the sake of young people and high quality prevention work
- Testament to the success of the programme, a number of the individual local projects have found alternative funding or mainstreamed it and the benefits are continuing in every part of the Thames Valley.
- In some areas, notably West Berkshire, identification of funding will enable the benefits to span all schools in that borough whereas the funding in other areas is for priority schools (based on information about exclusion rates).
- Much of the youth related service provision grant funded by the PCC has successfully adapted to the impact of Covid with many moving to digital meetings. This has, in some areas, actually increased engagement. Additionally there have been reports that some young people who were difficult to engage and who did not value the face-to-face youth work are (now that it is not available) demonstrating far more compliance and positive behaviours than before the first lockdown.
- Every Community Safety Partnership (CSP) across the force has prevention support for young people as part of their core work and the conversations have shifted from always funding tertiary work towards investing better in (often non-statutory) high impact prevention work. Examples include:
 - Missing and exploitation panels
 - Youth Drug Diversion schemes
 - Earlier Mental Health support
 - Expansion of work into primary schools (where previous was secondary only)
 - Shift for Youth Offending Teams into preventative work (mentoring, youth workers co-located in schools)
 - Utilising local football clubs - ensuring youth spaces feel safe to young people
 - Parenting programmes
 - Interactive sessions in schools where pupils from primary through to secondary use digital storyboards to understand choices and consequences

2019/20:

- The OPCC continues to deliver and evaluate the projects funded under the EIYF. Three tiers of work are being supported including
 - Tier 1 - schools awareness via a theatre production which has now been delivered in most schools and will end in March 2020.
 - Tier 2 – detached youth work and alternative education provision involving access to employment and mental health support.
 - Tier 3 – Targeted support for those already excluded and/or already in contact with the CJS.

- The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Funding received in November 2020 supports a linked body of projects focussing on both adults and young people at risk of or involved in violent crime or exploitation. The decision in Thames Valley to extend this programme to support exploitation has been widely endorsed and complements a parallel TVP programme of work funded at LPA level under police 'surge' funding. For further information on the VRU funded projects, see up-date under 'Vulnerability' progress report.

2018/19:

- The PCC provided over £213,000 of funding to organisations across the Thames Valley to raise awareness and provide training on cybercrime. This included £50,000 to develop a play to be delivered to primary school students. The cybercrime play has already been shown to 3,000 students aged 9 - 11 years old across 60 schools in Oxfordshire (Qtr. 1) and toured Buckinghamshire in September and October and Berkshire in November and December.
- Early Intervention Youth Fund (EIYF) – the OPCC collaborated with all 18 local authorities and 14 community safety partnerships (CSPs) across the Thames Valley and successfully bid for Home Office grant funding of £822,000 which was awarded in November 2018. This collaboration is facilitating the following initiatives:
 - **OPCC** is funding a Business Change Project Manager and a Partnership Analyst to support the local delivery of this work.
 - **Oxfordshire** has adopted a common Child Exploitation framework, which is being adopted in other areas.
 - **Slough** CSP have shared their existing work around gang violence and enabling better choices in YP.
 - **Bracknell** CSP is investing time in data analysis around violence to improve understanding and ask better questions.
 - **Buckinghamshire** has pulled together a county-wide thematic group led by the YOS to improve the partnership approach.
 - **Milton Keynes** has paid for knife crime theatre performances in secondary schools.

2017/18:

- The OPCC has recruited a Communications Support Officer (Jan 2018) whose role includes development of fraud awareness initiatives with elderly and other vulnerable groups via partner engagement and roll out of the PCC's 'Safe Locations' strategy.
- The PCC's 10% top-slice of Community Safety Funding (CSF) was used to support targeted priorities - £100,000 was allocated to Cybercrime initiatives.
- In collaboration with TVP Economic Crime Unit, PCC agreed funding for one-year pilot under Operation Signature (mentioned above under TVP activity) to support Thames Valley victims of fraud, identify more vulnerable individuals requiring on-going police support, and provide advice and signposting to support.

2. Increased focus by all agencies on preventing and tackling 'peer on peer' abuse

TVP Delivery Plan actions & progress:

- Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire ran a summer programme (2018) around gang and criminal exploitation, run by Act2Improv (ATI). The programme was intended as a preventative diversion from gang membership or exploitation, with the success monitored through quantitative measures of re-offending.
- Youths at risk of crime, committing crime or being vulnerable, took part in 'Music & Motivation', a project offering education, interaction through music and opportunities to pursue their own interests with support and mentors (landscaping, graphic design etc.). The diversion was a success, achieved community support and funding, while demonstrably reducing the youths' involvement in police incidents. A mentoring scheme in Cherwell has also seen successes.

2017/18:

- Developed operational guidance and bespoke intelligence collection plans to tackle Honour-Based Abuse (HBA), Forced Marriage (FM), coercive control and stalking as well as working to increase partnership data contributions.
- Hosted a Peer Learning Event on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), sharing learning with 16 police forces across England and Wales.
- Undertook a review of the operational guidance for key areas of safeguarding and completed the Child Sexual Exploitation guidance.
- Oxfordshire CSP invested £40,000 in a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Co-ordinator post.
- Launched the 18 month 'Hidden Harm' campaign (Oct 2017).
- Launched operational guidance for those responding to cases of adults at risk and are currently working on 'mate crime', which will help uncover and look at issues involved in elder abuse.
- Slough LPA has adopted the Home Office 'Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG) strategy, which was commended at the South East Regional Home Office (VAWG) conference
- Cherwell & West Oxfordshire LPA launched the 'Safeguarding Children in Banbury' project in collaboration with local schools.
- The PCC agreed to fund a 'Healthy Relationships Programme', which will educate children about the importance of healthy relationships. The programme is being developed in both primary and secondary schools.
- Slough LPA is supporting the development of the Innovation Hub within the Slough Children's Services Trust, which aims to provide better support to children and families on the edge of care and provide earlier intervention. To support this, TVP has seconded a police officer to work within the Hub (located within Council premises).

- TVP published guidance for its officers on 'Child Safeguarding – Initial Actions'

OPCC initiatives & progress:

2019/20:

- Delivery of domestic abuse campaign on coercive control. 'Know this isn't Love' poster campaign and the subsequent video 'Don't disappear' highlighting warning signs of relationship abuse was launched and shared with partners across the Thames Valley

2018/19:

- Over £3m of community safety funding provided by the PCC to local authorities across the Thames Valley to tackle local priorities, including peer on peer abuse where relevant to the local area. This included an initiative whereby the OPCC commissioned SAFE! to provide a Young Victims Service across Thames Valley, which includes supporting victims of 'peer on peer' abuse.

2017/18:

- The OPCC is developing a domestic abuse campaign to increase opportunities for early intervention and prevention, e.g. Camden Council's 'coercive control' campaign will be utilised by the OPCC in May/June 2018 including, as an off-shoot of this campaign, promotion of 'Clare's Law' in March 2018.

OPCC Community Safety Fund Initiatives:

- Oxfordshire CSP invested £9,446 expanding their 'Safe Places Scheme'; places in the community where the vulnerable can seek advice and support with crime and safety concerns. Identified 33 new Safe Places in Wallingford and 17 in Didcot.
- Slough CSP invested £74,500 on a comprehensive 'Healthy Relationship' campaign throughout all schools in the area.

OPCC's Victims' Services initiatives:

- The Young Victims Service ('SAFE') facilitated a group with recently arrived young migrant men at City of Oxford College. Weekly group meetings focus on discussion around healthy relationships and sex, managing risk, protective behaviours and positive activities.

OPCC Specialist Counselling Service

- Qtr 1 activity focussed on promoting counsellor application process, receiving and processing applications, recruiting and induction for counsellors. 70 Approved Counsellors receiving Induction.
 - Total counselling capacity – 218 hours per week
 - Currently uneven spread across Thames Valley.
 - Focused town/county recruitment via Facebook and direct emailing via Counselling Directory.
- Qtr 2 activity focussed on identifying (restricted) referral routes and raising awareness of the service through those routes. Restricted routes necessary to ensure that supply can meet demand. Range of referral routes:
 - TVP (Child Abuse Investigation Units, Domestic Abuse Investigation Units, School Liaison Officers, Family Liaison Officers, Specially Trained Officers)
 - PCC Commissioned Victims Services Providers
 - Non-PCC providers of Victims Services (e.g. Rape Crisis Centres)
 - Probation Victim Liaison Units
 - Commenced accepting referrals in September 2017.

3. A coordinated strategy between police, health and local authorities to tackle Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Thames Valley, leading to improved reporting of FGM and evidenced approaches on prevention

TVP Delivery Plan actions & progress:

2019/20:

- In Q1, the Force improved on the Early Interventions strand of the plan – including actions such as ‘train the trainer’ scheme for Female Genital Mutilation (as well as domestic abuse victims through the Prosecution Working Group meetings). For this, outside partners have come in to train dedicated points of contact in the crime investigation units, who then trained their peers.

2018/19:

- Following a “train the trainer” scheme, each Child Abuse Investigation Unit now has a Single Point of Contact on FGM who has received training from Oxford Against Cutting and the Rose Centre and shares this knowledge with peers in the LPAs and PVP to improve understanding and police response.

2017/18:

- Launched the 18 month ‘Hidden Harm’ campaign (Oct 2017).
- Undertook a review of the operational guidance for key areas of safeguarding, and completed the Child Sexual Exploitation guidance, which now includes guidance regarding Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).
- An ‘East Berkshire Against Violence’ conference was held for over 150 practitioners in Slough (Nov 2017) with speakers covering areas such as forced marriage, domestic abuse and FGM.

OPCC initiatives & progress:

2020/21:

- Published the final report from the Violence Against Women and Girls Transformation fund project to improve the multi-agency response to VAWG in BAMER communities. The BAMER (now BAED, Black And Ethnically Diverse) Partnership Board is continuing with an action plan to address recommendations from the project evaluation.

2019/20:

- Projects funded to support education and community awareness and support regarding FGM ended in 2018-19. The FGM Board supporting those programmes also ended due to lack of attendance, but work strands and awareness raising continue under the OPCC chaired BAMER Board which supports the VAWG Transformation funding project to better engage with BAMER Communities to address FGM, forced marriage, DA and SA. The VAWG funding ends in April 2020, however, the OPCC intends to submit a further bid under the MoJ grant for 2 x BAMER ISVAs.

2018/19:

- The PCC provided nearly £120,000 funding to seven organisations across the Thames Valley to deliver this key aim. Funded initiatives include:

- Oxford Against Cutting received funding to deliver a two year programme. It has prioritised its training to schools based on the highest number of girls from communities which may be affected by FGM. To date over 500 teachers and Year 2 pupils have attended training sessions with the aim of increasing awareness and understanding of FGM.
- The Rose Centre in Reading was provided funding to hold workshops with women and girls impacted by FGM and to host a men's group. 64 men have attended the group to date, discussing the role of men in stopping FGM.
- An Advice Hub is being developed, as part of the Rose Centre in Reading, where professionals can access advice online or by phone
- Slough Refugee Support was provided funding to deliver midwife and client sessions headed up by a Somali speaking midwife with course materials available in the Somali language. These sessions aim to raise awareness of FGM amongst attendees and recognise the fact that it is practised in the UK as well as their home country.

2017/18:

- The PCC's 10% top-slice of Community Safety Funding (CSF) was used to support targeted priorities - £100,000 was allocated to support local projects / organisations providing services that will improve reporting and prevention of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).
- Following two successful government funding applications (£400k) to the 'Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG) Transformation Fund (via The Department for Communities and Local Government and The Home Office), the Thames Valley 'Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee' (BAMER) Project Board was established to support the assessment, improvement and better coordination of the multi-agency response to VAWG in BAMER communities across the region.
- The BAMER Board established, with a strategic post recruited by Oxfordshire CC and BAMER outreach posts recruited by TVP LPAs.

4. Improved reporting and understanding of the prevalence and nature of Hate Crime across Thames Valley

TVP Delivery Plan actions & progress:

2020/21:

- Latest published Hate Crime figures for the period April – August 2020 are presented below.

TVP Performance Measures 2020/21 (period: 1 April 2020 – 31 August 2020)

Measure	Comparison (Aug 2019)	Aug 2020
Increase in confidence of victims to report Hate Crime and Incidents:		
Level of Racist crime	1,226	1,708
Level of Faith related crime	87	82

Level of Homophobic crime	183	213
Level of Transphobic crime	38	46
Level of Disability related crime	141	157
Level of Racist incidents	383	280
Level of Faith related incidents	31	9
Level of Homophobic incidents	78	45
Level of Transphobic incidents	26	15
Level of Disability related incidents	96	71

2018/19:

- A joint TVP / CPS hate crime prosecution working group was established, with a focus on file quality to maximise successful prosecutions.
- Phase 4 of the Hidden Harm campaign completed, concluding the campaign as a whole. With a focus on Hate Crime, Phase 4 reached more than 835,000 people on social media, and was supported by campaigners such as the National Black Police Association and the disability charity United Response. 44 community events were held by neighbourhood teams, and activities were further supported by schools, local authorities and other emergency service partners.

2017/18:

- Developed assurance mechanisms, both on LPAs and centrally, to increase recognition, recording and response to hate crime, providing support to LPA Hate Crime 'Single Points of Contact' (SPOCs). The Force also delivered Hate Crime e-learning and developing classroom-based training in support of this, which is now being rolled out across the Force.
- Force held a 'Hate Crime Week' (Oct 2017), during which Force and LPA activities had a focus on engagement, confidence building and increasing reporting.
- Developed and published operational guidance to support officers' management of hate incidents.
- Each LPA has its own 'Hate Crime Action Plan' which is monitored at Hate Crime Operational Review Meetings to ensure a consistent approach.
- TVP developed engagement, publicity and reassurance with the Muslim community re the hate crime "Punish a Muslim" day offences.
- "Dealing with Hate Crime" training has been delivered both on-line and in the classroom.

OPCC initiatives & progress:

2019/20:

- The rollout of Victims First Connect supports 3rd Party Hate crime reporting.

2018/19:

- A third-party reporting mechanism has been created within the Victims First service which allows victims or witnesses who aren't comfortable reporting directly to the police to report to Victims First instead.

- A campaign to raise awareness of hate crime and encourage those who are a victim or a witness to report it has been developed and continues to be promoted.
- The OPCC is currently developing the Victims First Connect service which consists of information points in the community with the aim that a number of these will also be third party reporting sites for hate crime.

2017/18:

- The PCC took over the Hate Crime 3rd party reporting Helpline, website and App in April 2017.
- The OPCC developed a 'Let's Hate Hate' campaign and a programme of activities to help improve hate crime awareness and reporting. The campaign was publicised and promoted digitally and offline, and marketing material has been sent to TVP LPAs, parish councils and local community groups to raise awareness.

5. Police and partners address road safety concerns, especially amongst vulnerable groups such as younger people, cyclists and pedestrians

TVP Delivery Plan actions & progress:

2020/21:

- The first quarter (April – June 2020) performance has shown a 9.6% reduction in collisions when compared to the same period in 2019.

2018/19:

- The #SlowDown social media campaign aimed at highlighting the risks of driving at illegal / inappropriate speeds was delivered, with over 28,000 views.
- Corporate Communications ran a "Be bright, be seen" social media campaign about the need for reflective clothing to improve safety on the roads, which was seen by 12,143 people online.
- Corporate Communications delivered social media activity as part of Motorcycle Safety Week, which was seen by around 16,000 people online.
- As part of the drink and drug driving summer operation, a video 'Karen's Story' was produced featuring a bereaved mother whose daughter was killed in a drink drive collision caused by a family friend. The short video sits on YouTube. Social media channels were used to promote this anti-drink and drug drive message and media were invited to speak to the mother, Karen.
- 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' is a theatre education project exploring the circumstances and consequences of a road traffic collision. Aimed at 16 to 18 year olds, the campaign reaches new and pre-drivers, influencing behaviour and attitude on the roads. Produced by a road safety partnership including Thames Valley and Hampshire Police, local councils and emergency services, around 15,000 young people attended the performances during November 2018.
- The annual Roads Policing Christmas drink and drug driving awareness campaign was run in collaboration with Hampshire Constabulary, and the video materials had a total of 91k views.

- Operation Tutelage was developed by the Joint Operations Unit of Thames Valley Police and Hampshire Constabulary to tackle uninsured drivers. It was launched in November 2018 and has been adopted as a national initiative.

2017/18:

- TVP worked with 'Brake' (a road safety charity) to deliver the 'Speed Down Saves Lives' road safety week (Nov 2017) to reduce the number of road accidents.
- Operation Holly was delivered to reduce the opportunity for motorists to drive whilst impaired by either drugs or alcohol and thereby prevent road casualties.
- Bracknell & Wokingham LPA, working in partnership with a local parish council which has provided speed detection equipment, enables the results to be forwarded for targeted enforcement.
- Online road traffic collision reporting is now live on the TVP website, to allow the public to report accidents online.

6. Improved use of technology by police, in order to prevent crime and support earlier intervention with known offenders

TVP Delivery Plan actions & progress:

2020/21:

- Force-wide business rules for Priority Crime Teams and the investigative restructure was launched in April. This represents a significant change in the local ability to focus on dwelling burglary, both in terms of reduction and detection.
- COVID has significantly curtailed TVP's ability to physically work with partners, especially those in the charity and education sectors. However, stronger links were developed with the Metropolitan Police Service Op Orochi Command, and stood up a dedicated team of police officers and police staff to better identify, disrupt and bring to justice county drugs line. During the 'lockdown' period the force used existing and emerging technology to support mapping of COVID related breaches and criminality.
- The COVID pandemic has accelerated the deployment of mobile devices and technology across the force, to support new ways of working.

2018/19:

- The LPA-led multi-agency tasking and co-ordination (MATAC) process is being implemented in Oxfordshire and then across the force, focusing on a greater sharing of information between police and partners to target those causing the most harm.
- Protecting Vulnerable People have updated Niche with registered sex offender details so they are visible to neighbourhood police teams. Tasked visits will be undertaken by neighbourhood teams to specific offenders who are displaying chaotic behaviours, using local knowledge to monitor potential offenders and maximise local intelligence. Although the numbers involved are small, initial feedback is positive.
- The upgrade to TVP's crime recording system (Niche) was implemented in February 2019. This update aligns TVP with other regional forces.

2017/18:

- Digital Media Investigators (DMIs) are being used by Force CID and Hi-TEC Crime, and ACESO (phone downloads) are used in almost all investigations within Force CID.
- The Digital Transformation Portfolio is in a discovery stage where all relevant proposals are being reviewed for scope, budget and fit within the programmes.
- ICT has continued to expand its rollout of smartphones beyond the initial 7,000 across both Hampshire and Thames Valley and new laptops and Body Worn Video (BWV) cameras have also been deployed, in line with the 'Smarter Ways of Working' (SWoW) strategy.
- ICT is working to deliver a central 'cloud-based' storage solution for BWV footage which will enable the uploading and viewing of BWV footage from any TVP enabled workstation and also provide an enable to share footage with partners, including CPS and Courts.
- TVP is developing a collaborative approach to Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) with Hampshire Constabulary.
- Integrated Offender Management (IOM) and the Violent Sex Offenders Register now managed under one Detective Chief Inspector, to provide clarity and additional resources to support Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) (responsible authorities).
- Post July 2017, 98% of Crime Scene Investigators have forensic mobile device examination capability.
- More Crime Scene Investigators (CSIs) are being trained in the 'Spektor' forensic intelligence package to deal with cybercrime.
- The Force's Home Office-sponsored research project into 'Predictive Harm Analysis' continued into Year 2 (2017/18) with initial testing yielding positive outcomes. Engagement with LPAs on the use of predictive analytics is ongoing. A bid has been made by the Force for £80,000 to fund staff to take the project forward post-March 2018.
- Bracknell & Wokingham LPA has worked with their local communities to map home CCTV systems to gather evidence. This initiative has already led to a successful prosecution.
- The CCTV strategy working group has met, and is benchmarking hub solutions with other forces; gathering evidence based around existing demand, crime prevention and resolution statistics to develop an effective CCTV strategy.
- ICT Services now being designed in a way that allows sharing across regional forces, using cloud technologies. This enables shared solutions and best practice, and reduces the cost burden on TVP.

Anthony Stansfeld

Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley

20 November 2020