

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

Deepdale Lane, Nettleham, Lincoln. LN2 2LT

Telephone (01522) 947192 Fax (01522) 558739

E-Mail: lincolnshire-pcc@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Website: www.lincolnshire-pcc.gov.uk

Alan Hardwick

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

Quarterly Force Performance Update – April 2014

Foreword from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

A key aspect of my role as your Police and Crime Commissioner is to hold the Chief Constable to account. I am committed to reporting results back to you, and I will publish information about how well the Force is performing on a quarterly basis through my website, available at: www.lincolnshire-pcc.gov.uk/Policy/Performance.aspx.

From the performance statistics detailed in this document, you can assess how well Lincolnshire Police is performing in key areas such as reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, solving crime, how satisfied victims are with the services they receive and how confident people are with the police service in Lincolnshire. I will also highlight areas of performance that are exceptionally good and also those areas that need further work.

Overall in this period, the Force, has once again, returned excellent reductions in recorded crime. There has been a 2.7% reduction in overall recorded crime, which means there have been 1,017 fewer victims of crime compared to the same period last year. The continuing downward trend of recorded crime in the county has been seen across a range of crime groups including our priority categories noted in the Police and Crime Plan, including burglary dwelling (down 16.5%), anti-social behaviour (down over 18%) and violence against the person with injury (down 6%).

The latest resolution figures show that the Force is recording a rate of 31.6% for all crimes. This includes traditional detections such as charges, summons, cautions, penalty notices and also community based resolutions (known as 'restorative justice'¹). The resolution rate has been gradually increasing through the year and I will continue to closely monitor progress.

The final year end data shows a 5.4% reduction (23 fewer victims) in the number of people who have been killed or seriously injured on our roads for the calendar year 2013 compared to 2012. This means that the Force has achieved the joint target (437) agreed by the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership.

The number of recorded sexual offences is higher this year than at the same time last year. It is thought that successful campaigns over the Christmas period and around Valentine's Day may be raising awareness and reporting. The Force has plans to implement further

¹ Restorative justice is a more formal course of action administered by trained practitioners whereas less formal community-based resolutions are where the offender has made an admission and the victim is satisfied that such a resolution may be used. The resolutions are variable and may amount to an apology to the victim or agreement to carry out some activity such as repairing damage caused.

campaigns during the Football World Cup in June/July 2014. There has been an increase nationally and this is thought to be partly related to the 'Yewtree effect', whereby greater numbers of victims of sexual offences have come forward to report historical offences to the police². I continue to push for improved crime resolution rates in this area.

The number of crimes relating to other theft/shoplifting has increased in the year compared to the same time last year (by 2% or 235 crimes). I've had on-going discussions with the Deputy Chief Constable about this matter and I continue to keep a close eye on performance. The Force has implemented a 'challenge and prevent' initiative to tackle issues in relation to shoplifting; district Chief Inspectors have been working with local businesses to implement preventative measures. The initiative has seen significant reductions and positive impacts especially in the policing districts of Lincoln and West Lindsey. As a result, the increase in the number of shoplifting crimes has been minimised.

I am also pleased to include a number of specific case study highlights from the Force (covering the period January to March 2014). I hope that these provide some additional detail in support of the plain numbers and percentages. These examples show just some of the good work that the Force has carried out in upholding the law, protecting the public and bringing offenders to justice.

I will issue my next quarterly update in July 2014, covering the period from April 2014 – June 2014. You can find local crime rates and trends via the crime mapper website available at www.police.uk.



Alan Hardwick
Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

² Source: Crime Survey for England and Wales see <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/get-involved/taking-part-in-a-survey/information-for-households/a-to-z-of-household-and-individual-surveys/crime-survey-for-england---wales/index.html>

Quarterly Force Performance Update (April 2013 – March 2014)

Recorded Crime

All recorded crime is **down 2.7% with 1,017 fewer crimes** in the period April 2013 to March 2014 compared to same period last year with an improving 5 year trend line.

Violence against the person (with injury)³ crime is **down 6.1% with 195 fewer crimes** in the period April 2013 to March 2014 compared to same period last year. Performance data shows an improving 5 year trend line.

Burglary dwelling offences are down **12.4% with 256 fewer crimes** in the period April 2013 to March 2014 compared to same period last year with an improving 5 year trend line.

Robberies are down **5.6% with 10 fewer crimes** in the period April 2013 – March 2014 compared to the same period last year.

Vehicle Crimes are down **11.6% with 396 fewer crimes** in the period April 2013 – March 2014 compared to same period last year.

Sexual Offences have increased by 18.4% (104 crimes) in the period April 2013 – March 2014 compared to same period last year.

Other theft/Shoplifting crimes have increase by 2% (235 crimes) in the period April 2013 – March 2014 compared to same period last year.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Recorded incidents of **Anti-Social Behaviour** have reduced across the county by **18.2%** (4,850 fewer incidents in the period April 2013 – March 2014 compared to same period last year) with an improving 5 year trend.

For the period April 2013 – March 2014, the Force has recorded 5,507 instances of **Criminal damage**. This is down 9.2% compared to the same period last year (560 fewer crimes). The 5 year trend line is one of improvement.

Solving Crime

The Force is showing an **overall crime resolution** (including Restorative Justice⁴) rate of 31.6% in the period April 2013 to March 2014. This is slightly up compared to the

³ This crime category includes common assault, assault with injury, harassment, wounding, death by driving, manslaughter and murder.

same period last year (1.1%). The Force's use of Restorative Justice in this period is 5.4% which equates to 1,952 offences.

The resolution rate for Burglary Dwelling for the period April 2013 – March 2014 is 16.5%, an increase of 1.6% compared to the same period last year. The latest performance data for Violence against the person with injury resolutions is 47.6% (in the period April 2013 – March 2014), this is slightly up compared to the same period last year (46.2%).

Satisfaction with Service

A telephone survey is carried out on a monthly basis that assesses the proportion of victims of burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime who answered that they were fairly, very or completely satisfied with their experience of the police.

Latest data (rolling 12 month to March 2014) shows that 83.4% of victims surveyed were satisfied with the service they received – this is the same level as the same period last year. The 5 year trend line is improving. The current 12 month rolling figure for the satisfaction rate of victims in relation to being 'kept informed' is 74.5%, an increase of 1.8% when compared to the same period last year. There has been a continued improving trend since June 2012.

The current 3 month rolling figure for overall satisfaction levels in relation to Anti-social behaviour is 72.8%. The satisfaction rate for ASB 'kept informed' is 65%. The Force is aiming for an improving 5 year trend in these categories.

Confidence in local policing

The nationally run Crime Survey for England and Wales reports on the public's confidence in their local police service. The latest percentage of people surveyed (to September 2013) who agreed or strongly agreed with the following question: 'Taking everything into account, I have confidence in the police in this area' is 71.1%. The next release of data is expected towards the end of April 2014, this will cover the period to December 2013. The Force's aim is to maintain the levels of confidence recorded in 2012 (70%).

Killed and Seriously Injured

The number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads in the county is 403 (for the period January – December 2013) this is down 5.4% (23 fewer) compared to the same time last year. The Force's joint calendar year target set with the Lincolnshire Roads Safety Partnership is 437.

⁴In some cases, community resolutions known as Restorative Justice can be used. Restorative Justice gives victims the chance to tell offenders the real impact of their crime, to get answers to their questions and to receive an apology. It gives the offenders the chance to understand the real impact of what they've done and to do something to repair the harm. Restorative Justice holds offenders to account for what they have done, personally and directly, and helps victims to get on with their lives.

Case Study Highlights – January – March 2014

Armed Robbery – 1 arrested, Lincoln

On Tuesday 11th February 2014 a security alarm in a shop was activated and a member of staff reported a male was in the shop armed with a knife. The caller was able to stay on the line and update Police as to the offender's actions inside the shop. A police officer attended as the male was attempting to run away. Following a short chase the offender was stopped and arrested.

Attempted Suicide

On the 12th of February 2014 Police received a call that a female had left secure accommodation and was attempting to walk on the railway tracks. Officers attended the scene and found the female standing on the track as a train was approaching. The officers managed to push her off the track in time and no one was hurt. The train driver also called to state he had seen the officers struggling with the female to save her.

Dog attack – 1 arrested, Lincoln

On Sunday 9th March 2014 a call was received from the ambulance service reporting a dog had attacked a female resulting in serious injuries. Police searched the area and following further investigation found the dog with a male in Lincoln. The dog was seized for examination and the male arrested.

Operation Artwork – EDL Demonstration, Grantham

The English Defence League (EDL) held a demonstration in the town centre of Grantham against the proposal for an Islamic Cultural Centre to be built. Communications between the organisers of the protest, local authorities and the Police were put in place at an early stage and this assisted in making sure the event was safe and caused minimum disruption to the residents of Grantham.

Operation Bulgari – Attempted Murder, Lincoln

An incident took place in Lincoln Town Centre on Friday the 1st of September 2013 and this resulted in a male being attacked with a claw hammer. Three people were arrested and charged in connection with the offence of attempted murder. They each appeared in court and were found guilty. They were sentenced to between 16 months and 18 years.

Anti- social behaviour, Market Rasen

Stephen McDermott, 53 from Market Rasen was causing issues in both Market Rasen and Lincoln. He was known for his abusive and threatening behaviour, especially after having a drink. He had been arrested and found guilty at court on 12 occasions in the last 2 years for drunk and disorderly and public order offences. In order to try and prevent the continual offending, an application was made to the courts for an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO). He appeared at Lincoln Magistrates Court on 25th February 2014 and the court issued the ASBO for a period of 3 years.

Notable Convictions

- A 41 year old man – Christian Barber was sentenced to 59 months for fraud & theft at Lincoln Crown court on 14 February 2014. He was described as a 'selfish, accomplished and skilful conman' after stealing a total of £46,300 from women across the country.
- A prolific burglar with numerous convictions for burglary and theft has been sentenced to 4 years and 6 months in prison for burglary. Mark Paterson, 35 was convicted at Lincoln Crown Court following a burglary on Burton Road in October

2013. Paterson was located and arrested the day after the incident, still in possession of the stolen items.

- A 50 year old self-confessed paedophile was sentenced to 6 years in prison following his conviction of possession and distribution of child abuse images. Andrew Bowen, 50 was found guilty of 23 offences relating to child abuse images. Bowen was described as 'a very dangerous man who has no concept of the deep and lasting impact his crimes have on the children involved in the material he has obtained and distributed.

Ends

Note:

Section 11 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act requires a local policing body to publish the information which the body considers to be necessary to enable the persons who live in the body's area to assess:

- (a) the performance of the body in exercising the body's functions; and
- (b) the performance of the relevant chief officer of police in exercising the chief officer's functions.

Such information will be published on the Commissioner's website at the end of each quarter.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/enacted>

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Police HQ, Deepdale Lane, Nettleham, Lincoln. LN2 2LT
Tel: 01522 947226 or Email: Virginia.mason@lincs.pnn.police.uk