

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

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Alan Hardwick

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

Quarterly Force Performance Update – December 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 returned a reduction in recorded crime. There has been a 1.6% reduction in overall recorded crime, which means there have been 440 fewer victims of crime compared to the same period last year. This is in the context of a continual downward trend¹ of recorded crime in the county.

The Force has continued to see a decrease in high volume crimes such as 'other theft including shoplifting' which is down 9.7% (899 crimes) compared to last year. Anti-social behaviour incidents also continue to decrease, with 356 (2.1%) fewer incidents this period compared to the same period last year.

I am particularly pleased to report that the number of recorded burglary dwelling crimes has been steadily decreasing over the last few months, with near 50 fewer crimes recorded in this December compared to December 2013. This has been an area of concern for both me and the Chief Constable and it is good to see evidence that the Force has gripped this. I have also maintained a close watch on violence against the person with injury crimes. The latest figures up to December 2014, show an increase of 9% (204 crimes) compared to the same period last year but the Force has maintained a very good national position (4th out of 43 forces) and regional position (1st out of 5 forces).

My concern about the overall user satisfaction and 'kept informed' performance figures continues. The Force has a dedicated Chief Inspector in place to co-ordinate the plan to improve services and support for victims and witnesses. Actions are based around four strands, namely Prevention, Response, Investigation and Reassurance. The Force continues to implement the plan and I am maintaining a very close watch on how work is progressing.

¹ 5 year trend

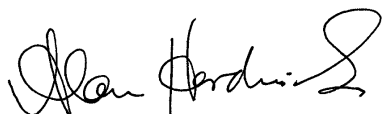
At present, the position is not good enough. Victims of crime are central to my Police and Crime Plan and I am committed to improving support for victims and witnesses.

The latest resolution² figures show that the Force is recording a rate of 31.2% for all crimes, 16.4% for burglary dwelling crimes and 46.2% for violence against the person with injury crimes. I will continue to closely monitor progress and push for improvements in this area.

I am pleased to report that the number of people who have been killed or seriously injured on our roads has decreased by 10.8% (42 fewer KSIs) this calendar year compared to last.

I am also including a number of specific case study highlights from the Force (covering the period October to December 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 April 2015, covering the period from April 2014 – March 2015. 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 The way that the Home Office records crime 'outcomes' changed in April 2014. Crime outcomes are now monitored as to whether they are 'resolved', 'un-finalised' (active investigation) or 'no crime'. The resolved crime category used in this document include charge, summons, caution, taken into consideration, offender has died, penalty notices, cannabis warning, community resolution, prosecution not in the public interest.

Quarterly Force Performance Update (April 2014 - December 2014)

Recorded Crime

All recorded crime is **down 1.6% with 440 fewer crimes** in the period April 2014 to December 2014 compared to same period last year with an improving 5 year trend line.

Violence against the person (with injury)³ crime is **up 9.0% with 204 more crimes** in the period April 2014 to December 2014 compared to same period last year.

Burglary dwelling offences are **up 8.3% with 112 more crimes** in the period April 2014 to December 2014 compared to same period last year with an **improving** 5 year trend line.

Other theft/Shoplifting crimes have **decreased** by 9.7% (899 crimes) in the period April 2014 – December 2014 compared to same period last year.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Recorded incidents of **Anti-Social Behaviour** have reduced across the county by **2.1%** (356 fewer incidents in the period April 2014 – December 2014 compared to same period last year) with an improving 5 year trend.

For the period April 2014 – December 2014, the Force has recorded 3,983 instances of **Criminal damage and Arson Crime**. This is down 8.1% compared to the same period last year (351 fewer crimes). The 5 year trend line is one of improvement.

Solving Crime

The latest resolution figures (in the period April – December 2014) show that the Force is recording a rate of 31.2% for all crimes, 16.4% for burglary dwelling crimes and 46.2% for violence against the person with injury crimes.

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 December 2014) shows that 82.1% of victims surveyed were satisfied with the service they received – this is exactly the same figure as the previous year. The 5 year trend line is improving. The current 12 month rolling figure for

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

the satisfaction rate of victims in relation to being 'kept informed' is 70.8%. The 5 year trend line is stable.

The current 3 month rolling figure for overall satisfaction levels in relation to Anti-social behaviour is 76.0%. The satisfaction rate for ASB 'kept informed' is 64.0. 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 June 2014) who agreed or strongly agreed with the following question: 'Taking everything into account, I have confidence in the police in this area' is **73.4%**. The next release of data is expected towards the end of January 2015, this will cover the period to September 2014. 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 347 (for the period January – November 2014) this is down 10.8% (42 fewer) compared to the same time last year. The Force's joint calendar year target set with the Lincolnshire Roads Safety Partnership is 427.

Case Study Highlights: October – December 2014

Air crash: 8th October a military aircraft belonging to the United States air force crashed into a field at Broadgate, Weston Hills, Spalding. The pilot, undergoing a training exercise had escaped with minor injuries. Officers evacuated nearby houses and, with partners, established a reception centre to cater for those temporarily displaced. The military authorities were supported in the investigation of the incident and management of the scene.

Drug Supply: On 22nd October officers executed search warrants at nine addresses in the Grantham area as part of a large scale investigation into the supply of Class A drugs. Twelve arrests were made on the day and enquiries continue.

Fatal Road Traffic Collison: On 5th December officers attended Station Rd, Tydd Gote, Wisbech, where a five year old boy had been struck by a car. Members of the public gave first aid until the arrival of the emergency services. The child was airlifted to hospital, where on 19th December he sadly died from his injuries. An investigation continues and a file is being prepared for the coroner.

Murder: On 23rd December officers were called to Pennell St, Lincoln following reports that a nine year old boy was deceased. A murder enquiry commenced and the boy's Grandfather Stewart Greene of Grimoldby, Louth was charged with murder.

Unexplained deaths: On 20th November, following concerns for the welfare of the occupants, officers attended a residential address at Ruskington, Nr Sleaford. Upon searching the address two persons were found deceased. Police are not looking for anyone else in connection with this incident and a file has been submitted to the coroner.

Vehicle pursuit: On 20th December the occupants of a property in a village near Market Rasen disturbed a male in outbuildings. The male made off in a car when challenged. Police were called and located the vehicle and attempted to stop the vehicle, however, the driver would not comply and as such a pursuit of the vehicle was undertaken in a safe and controlled manner with the risks under constant review. The vehicle was safely stopped using a stinger device and the driver arrested and prosecuted for burglary, dangerous driving, driving whilst disqualified and other offences.

Cigarette seizures: During the first week in November Lincolnshire police, together with partners from Lincolnshire County Council, took part in Operation Fountain. Acting upon intelligence received from the public, this initiative targeted retail premises in the Lincoln area believed to have been selling counterfeit and smuggled tobacco. Over 40,000 cigarettes were recovered, some of which were found secreted in such places as hidden compartments, storage freezers and rubbish bins. Counterfeit cigarettes have been found to contain asbestos and human faeces and fail to extinguish and are extremely hazardous.

Notable Convictions

Armed robbery: Following a lengthy trial at Maidstone Crown Court, David Bentley of Orpington, Kent, was convicted of four robberies in Lincolnshire, Kent and Surrey, and sentenced to 28 years imprisonment. On 26th September 2013, Bentley entered Thomson Travel in Wide Bargate, armed with a handgun and disguised with makeup, wig and glasses. Bentley's girlfriend and co-defendant, Justyna Pietrzak (29), of Gravesend, had disguised herself and waited near to the premises to alert Bentley of the best time to make his entrance. He made threats to staff and escaped with cash to the value of £2157.

Robbery: Dean Millington (35), of High Street, broke into the house in Spilsby in the early hours of 17th October, armed with a cauliflower machete knife and wearing a mask. The court heard that Millington punched the victim in the face before searching the property looking for money and eventually leaving with a handbag and £50 in cash. At the time of the robbery Millington was on police bail suspected of carrying out an earlier burglary on the same house when £1,500 was taken. Judge Michael Heath, passing sentence, told Millington "You subjected your employer and his partner to a terrifying incident.

Sexual Offences: Phillip Belcher, from Bourne, was arrested in July 2014 for sex offences against children and subsequently charged and remanded in custody. He appeared at Lincoln Crown Court on Monday 17th December and pleaded guilty to offences including, rape of a female under 13, sexual assault of a female under 13, taking indecent images of a child and inciting a female under 13 to engage in sexual activity. He was sentenced to a total of 22 years, 14 years in prison with 8 years on extended licence.

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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