

A1: Making our streets, villages, towns and city safer**Burglary**

Burglary remains a key area of focus for Nottinghamshire Police and its partner agencies. Burglary is well-recognised as having a significant impact on communities and victims. Burglary is a control strategy priority graded using the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MORILE) 2020 matrix. Scores are reviewed on a monthly basis with November being graded as 'stable.' Burglary performance is scrutinised at both our monthly tasking meetings and our Operational Performance Review meetings both of which are chaired by the Assistant Chief Constable.

Response & Attendance:

Reports of burglary are appropriately assessed by the Force Control Room. Nottinghamshire Police utilises both telephone and digital solutions for contact with the force. Every contact with the force is recorded through Saab SAFE records, which offers innovative technology to immediately identify repeat callers and locations, as well as vulnerable victim identification through THRIVE & intelligence assessments. All calls for service will result in a Contact Record and/or Incident being recorded on the Safe Command and Control platform. All incidents created must have a THRIVE assessment attached and any change in grading will require a further assessment. This enables the force to identify any risk and to ensure the most appropriate policing response.

Attendance at burglary reports is recognised as crucial in establishing solvability and also increases victim satisfaction (as per evidence-based guidance provided by the College of Policing). The first attendance at the majority of burglaries will be by response officers who are trained to attend the scene and identify any evidential opportunities. Common lines of enquiry include taking formal evidence from the victim, early witness identification and early interrogation of independent sources of evidence such as CCTV. Where appropriate and in line with their training, officers will 'tag' the report for CSI attendance. It is recognised that the presence of forensic evidence is an important 'solvability factor' – in the second quarter of 2022, 29% of burglary reports in Nottinghamshire were attended by a Crime Scene Investigator. 50% of these attendances resulted in the recovery of fingerprints and 20% of these attendances resulted in the recovery of DNA. This led to 19 DNA 'idents' (where a named suspect is evidenced) and 43 fingerprint idents. The force continues to train front line officers to assist them in their identification of scenes where a CSI could add value. Dip testing of incidents is taking place over the next month to assess levels of 'tagging.' The results of this work will be included in the next accountability report.

Structure and Investigation Management

After the initial response, officers record their actions on our crime recording system and burglaries are sent and tasked to the dedicated Burglary CID teams that sit within our Local Policing Command. Notts police is proud to have well established specialist burglary teams on both the city and county areas. There are four teams across the force lead by four Detective Sergeants who are overseen by two role-specific Detective Inspectors. It is the role of these teams to run burglary investigations. Each morning these teams review all reported burglaries from the previous 24-hour period and begin their investigations. The findings of these reviews are scrutinised at the daily CID management meetings and at the daily divisional management meetings allowing fast allocation of other resources such as Neighbourhood Policing Teams into an area that has been targeted. By having resources dedicated to this crime type and

operating in this way we can quickly identify linked offences and offences committed by the same perpetrator. Our burglary teams own and fast track the arrest and process of any identified suspects. This results in very positive detection rates – over the last calendar year (November 2021 to November 2022), 8.9% of all crimes classified as burglaries resulted in a positive outcome.

We commission a bi-weekly threat assessment through our intelligence department that identifies any ‘hotspot’ areas and offending. The DI’s attend the neighbourhood Local Operations Meeting (LOM) ensuring Neighbourhood Policing Inspectors (NPI’s) are sighted on and contributing resources to, local burglaries. Every month the force Violence Silvers meeting takes place which is chaired by the force lead and attended by the proactive DI’s. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that proactive activity in terms of arrests and prosecutions are taking place with appropriate speed and that linked-offences are recognised and prioritised. There is some additional content in this meeting around services to repeat victims and hotspot targeting actions. A regional burglary meeting chaired by our proactive DI’s feeds into this meeting and we find benefit from close coordination with our regional forces – Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. Whilst our teams work with many partners, important work happens with the probation services to ensure awareness of relevant prison releases and act quickly to secure recall action where possible.

A selection of notable investigations in the last circa (c.) 12 months are summarised below. Only limited information can be given for reasons of investigative integrity and to ensure each accused person’s right to a fair trial (viz-a-viz Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights) is preserved with prosecutions pending:

- 1) A male charged with 17 burglary offences in the Worksop area after work was carried out in partnership with South Yorkshire Police.
- 2) A male with a long history of burglary offending charged with a burglary in the West Bridgford area resulting in the court sentencing him to four years in custody.
- 3) A burglar was identified coming into the West Bridgford area from Clifton between March and May 2022, CCTV enquiries provided good facial imagery and the series of offences was linked to this offender through clothing comparisons and forensic work. A subsequent reduction in offending in the West Bridgford area was noted.
- 4) Three males have been charged and remanded to court for a series of two burglaries in the Worksop and Newark area. They await sentencing at the crown court after being found in close proximity to one of the burglaries and being linked via enquiries to the second.
- 5) A male charged and remanded with a burglary in the student area of Lenton had pleaded guilty at court and awaits sentencing.
- 6) A different male was charged and remanded into custody with a burglary of a multi-occupancy student premises having been confronted by one of the occupants in their bedroom.
- 7) A male and a female were arrested for a burglary in a student hotspot with lock picking equipment having been videoed by the victim gaining access to the dwelling. The pair were detained nearby and both were charged with burglary and other theft offences.
- 8) A male who stole an x-box during a burglary in a student premises was charged and remanded to court after the receipt for his subsequent sale of that x-box was found in a search of his premises. He awaits trial.

- 9) A prolific offender from the Broxtowe area of the city was charged with burglary and multiple other offences and pled guilty at the first opportunity leading to him being given a sentence of 9 months imprisonment.
- 10) 3 offenders were charged and remanded for robbery offences after targeting a security guard carrying cash from a cash machine. Off-duty officers carried out fast time enquiries to identify the vehicle the offenders were using and it was stopped nearby with a great deal of evidence within.

Future Plans

Guidance to officers around taking burglary offences into consideration (TIC's) is being refreshed and will soon be circulated. This is a method that allows offenders to inform police of offences they have committed allowing multiple offences to be put before the courts at one time and is recognised as reducing delays for victims.

Nottinghamshire police continues to train officers to achieve in their detective qualification (PIP2). It is recognised that our burglary investigations benefit from increasing numbers of qualified detectives.

The introduction of Power BI as an analytical product for Nottinghamshire Police will allow officers to quickly identify reports of burglary in local communities. This will enable Neighbourhood and investigative teams to quickly identify patterns, trends and hotspots that may require an additional policing response. For example, the times and dates of burglaries will be easily identified, enabling key prevention / enforcement opportunities to be identified. This will enable the force to ensure that resources are in the right place at the right time.

A great deal of work has been done in Nottinghamshire under the Safer Streets agenda. This has included physical security improvements to properties in high-risk areas. Initial figures suggest that the security of 400 properties in high-risk areas has been improved. An analytical report is currently being produced to assess the impact of this work and this will be reviewed in the next accountability report.