

For Information	
Public	Public
Report to:	Strategic Resources and Performance Meeting
Date of Meeting:	4th November 2020
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Agenda Item:	12

Chief Constable's Update Report November 2020

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Police and Crime Commissioner of significant events and work that has taken place since the previous update in March 2020.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the contents of the attached report are noted.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is aware of significant and notable events since the previous update report in March 2020 and receives appropriate assurance regarding the work being undertaken by the Force.

4. Summary of Key Points

- 4.1 Please see Appendix 1 for the full report.

5. Financial Implications and Budget Provision

- 5.1 Any financial implications and/or budget provision for the work outlined in the attached appendix have been accounted for through the Force financial governance process, led by the Head of Finance.

6. Human Resources Implications

- 6.1 Any staffing implications relating to the areas outlined in the main report will have been considered by the People Services Department.

7. Equality Implications

- 7.1 Nottinghamshire Police is working hard to become even more representative of the communities we serve and with our staff to ensure they have the

opportunity to progress and develop to make sure that this representation is reflected at all levels within the organisation.

- 7.2 Our equality objectives are engrained throughout all areas of our policing whether that be operational policing, engaging with local and diverse communities, and working closely with our partners.

8. Risk Management

8.1 This is an opportunity to make the OPCC aware of the significant events for Nottinghamshire Police, the majority of which are already in the public domain.

8.2 Organisational risk management takes place as part of the Force's core business and is governed through the Chief Officer Team and senior managers using a robust and transparent process.

9. Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

9.1 There are no policy implications arising from this report.

9.2 The attached appendix provides updates on areas of business set out against each of the four Police and Crime priorities.

10. Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

10.1 There are no legal considerations relating to this report.

11. Details of outcome of consultation

11.1 There has been no consultation on this report as it is for information only.

12. Appendices

12.1 Appendix 1 – Chief Constable's Update Report November 2020.

Appendix 1



Chief Constable's Update Report

Strategic Resources and Performance Board

November 2020

Version 1

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 I want to start by expressing my condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Sergeant Matt Ratana who was tragically shot and killed whilst on duty at a custody suite in Croydon in September. The investigation is ongoing and the incident brings home to everyone in the policing family the bravery and dedication shown by frontline staff, who serve the community to keep others safe.
- 1.2 Since my previous update report in July 2020 a significant amount of work has taken place within Force, which must be taken in context with the emergence of COVID-19 and the impact that this has had on daily business. We have successfully shifted our focus to allow us to maintain our highly professional approach and core business whilst also dealing with changing and increasing demands on the front line. Despite the challenges that COVID-19 has presented, our officers and staff have risen to the challenge. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued dedication during such an uncertain time and for continuing to work hard to make the communities in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire feel safe and reassured.
- 1.3 I'm pleased to report that all crime performance continues with a downwards trajectory. We saw a decrease in recorded all crime of 8,778 offences in the 12 months to June 2020. It is likely that the impact of COVID-19 on social interaction and lockdown measures were responsible for some of this reduction however the positive trend provides members of the public and our partners with confidence that we are working hard to protect people from harm and to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 1.4 Our first virtual annual awards event will be held later this month to showcase the excellent work of our officers and staff. Having made the decision to cancel the usual ceremony due to the restrictions upon us all, we've opted to televise a documentary in collaboration with Notts TV. The show will focus on key events, incidents and people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in the previous year and I'm excited to see the show, which is due to air at 9pm on Saturday 28th November.
- 1.5 We have had a number of excellent results from policing operations recently and I will go into more detail about some of these later in this report.
- 1.7 The information in these update reports should also be taken in the context of our heavily scrutinised budgets to ensure that we are continuing to spend public money wisely.
- 1.8 This update report provides information on just some of the work that has been taking place recently and is set out by each of the Police and Crime Commissioner's four strategic priority themes:
 - Protecting people from harm
 - Helping and supporting victims
 - Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour
 - Transforming services and delivering quality policing.

2.0 Strategic Theme 1: Protecting People from Harm

- 2.1 As I have outlined in my introduction, we have had to alter the way in which we carry out our business as a result of COVID-19 so that we can continue to protect people from harm. This remains a key objective for Nottinghamshire Police as well as our partners and we continue to work with our communities to ensure that neighbourhoods in the City and County remain safe places for people to live, work and visit.
- 2.2 Since the pandemic we have had increasingly difficult times in terms of policing and maintaining our core business. Officers and staff have had to police public compliance with the rules set by the Government and Public Health England as well as facing changes in standard policing practices for things such as taking telephone statements to ensure social distancing from a custody perspective, wearing of personal protective equipment and the wearing of face coverings. Policing does not stop. Our officers and staff have worked tirelessly to continue to protect people from harm as well as having additional responsibilities during lockdown to ensure that people were adhering to the 'stay at home' guidance and more recently, complying with social distancing measures.
- 2.3 In September, we issued a £10,000 fine to a resident in the Meadows who blatantly flouted the rules around Coronavirus and hosted a 50-guest house party in Lenton. Fines can and will be issued to those who break the rules and put other people's lives in danger. We are all aware of the risks presented by the pandemic and everyone has a personal responsibility to know the rules about social gatherings and social distancing. Wherever possible Nottinghamshire Police will try to engage with people, explain what the legislation is and encourage them not to break the rules in the first instance. Where people don't comply with this the legislation is clear and is our job to help protect communities and slow the spread of the virus where possible through enforcement. We have received additional funding from Government and spending will include increasing our Op Bion patrols.
- 2.4 Moving on from COVID, I want to say how pleased I am with the recent announcement from the Government that they plan to bring forward legislation to double the maximum sentence for those convicted of assaults on frontline staff, including police officers, firefighters and paramedics. We not only need to protect our communities from harm, but we also need to protect our officers and staff. Everyone has a right to feel safe in their job but sadly, all too often, emergency workers continue to face abuse and assaults while carrying out their duties. The change in law is absolutely the right thing to do and I am pleased that the maximum jail sentences for assaults on emergency workers will be increased to two years. This sends out the right message that this kind of abuse to officers and staff will not be tolerated and I hope that it makes people feel more secure in carrying out their duties.
- 2.5 I mentioned in my previous update report that we were taking part in the national week of action for Operation Sceptre back in March, which is a national effort to tackle knife crime. All of the tactics used will be safely adapted to ensure compliance with COVID-19 for two further weeks of action later this month (9th – 15th November). This will involve working

with Border Force once again to increase intelligence shared with forces allowing further preventative action, test purchase operations, stop and search, weapon sweeps, educational input, community engagement events and raising awareness of knife retailers.

- 2.6 In Nottinghamshire, all knife crime is showing a year to date reduction of 2.7% with a 29.5% reduction in possession offences. There was a small anticipated increase in offences following the easing of the lockdown in June and July, but rates have returned to normal, with downward trajectory levels through August and September.

We are investing 900 hours of overtime monthly in specific knife-crime policing activity. This is shared between the Knife Crime Team, Operational Support, Integrated Offender Management as well as City and County Neighbourhoods. This is yielding good results in arrests, stop searches and weapons seizures, taking items off the streets and protecting people from harm.

As well as a knife amnesty and dedicated policing operations in support of the week of action, we are working with the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) to engage the community to an even greater extent. City and County Youth Justice Services will also be engaged in promoting and supporting the national effort. A film is being made, promoting desistance messages with a local theme, being produced in Nottingham. This film will be released to coincide with the week of action and will be run on, the already successful, #NG social media site.

Some further positive work from a proactive point of view is the recent refresh to the knife crime guidance for officers, which emphasised the need to engage the Youth Justice System in disposal decisions for offenders 15 years and under. This will ensure that disposals are proportionate and appropriate and that diversion opportunities are maximised in the first instance.

- 2.7 Our Operational Support Department have had an uplift in the Tactical Support Group (TSG) unit from the beginning of September growing from 3 to 5 teams. This means that they can provide greater coverage for core TSG functions, such as Search, Police Search Adviser (PoSA) and Licenced Search Officer provision, VIP visits, public order policing and football policing. They will also be able to provide support to night-time economy (NTE) policing operations every Friday and Saturday evening and other key dates throughout the year. The team will continue to work with Operation Reacher staff and neighbourhood teams in support of local enforcement activity. The benefits of this is an even greater specialist support to regular policing duties making sure we go further in terms of keeping people safe and protecting them from harm.
- 2.8 Back in August we successfully facilitated a number of protests in the City Centre with regards to Black Lives Matter following the tragic death of Lloyd George in the US. The protests were largely peaceful and any issues were resolved very quickly by officers and event organisers. There were large groups of people gathering in one location to make their voices heard and our officers and frontline staff were able to engage with people

throughout the event to ensure it took place in the safest manner possible, protecting people from harm.

- 2.9 We have continued to welcome new police officers to the force despite the impact of COVID-19 as part of Operation Uplift. We recruited 282 officers during 2019/20 and are planning to take on a further 300 by March 2021. We are recruiting new officers from a diverse range of cultural backgrounds to ensure that Nottinghamshire Police is more representative of the communities we serve and on recent cohorts BAME representation has been as high as 30% which is particularly pleasing to see.
- 2.10 Protecting the public is at the heart of what we do. The Public Protection Department continue to use proactive and innovative approaches to manage those individuals who pose a risk to our local communities as well as undertaking effective investigations.
- 2.11 Our new Stalking Officer has increased awareness and performance in terms of the investigations of stalking including the obtaining of 13 Stalking Protection Orders since the introduction of the new legislation on 20th January this year. On the 3rd February 2020, Nottinghamshire Police was the first in the country in obtaining a non-domestic related Stalking Protection Order. There have been 6 breaches of these orders and the perpetrator became the first offender in Nottinghamshire to be sentenced for breaching a Stalking Protection Order in April 2020.
- 2.12 Our Modern Slavery Team also achieved the force's first Slavery and Trafficking Risk Order granted in October. The order was placed for a domestic servitude and labour exploitation case in which a female from Malaysia was recruited as a nanny to a home in Nottinghamshire but exploited once here. The Crown Prosecution Service deemed there was insufficient to proceed with a prosecution however the court granted the order, recognizing the risks and wanting to ensure the offender is unable to continue to act in this manner. The order is one of only 14 in the Country and Nottinghamshire will continue to tackle Modern Slavery and protect people from harm.
- 2.13 Nottinghamshire Police continue to react positively to online Child Activist Groups (otherwise known as paedophile hunters). The following are examples of online child sexual abuse activist group (OCAG) incidents resulting in jail sentences for three men:

Adnan Farzat was sentenced to two years six months in prison for attempting to engage in sexual communication with a child, attempting to incite a child to engage in sexual activity, attempting to cause a child to watch a sexual act and attempting to meet a child following grooming. Farzat thought that he was contacting an underage girl when in fact he was speaking to an adult male posing as a child. Evidence gathered was passed to Nottinghamshire Police who conducted an investigation that led to the arrest and charging of Farzat. He was sentenced at Nottingham Crown Court on Monday 13 January 2020. He was also placed on the sex offenders register indefinitely.

Kevin Hemming was jailed for 16 months for attempting to engage in sexual communication with a child and placed on the sex offenders register for 10

years. Hemming was also investigated after someone impersonating an underage girl gave evidence to Nottinghamshire Police.

Dean Rogers attempted to meet up with what he believed to be a 13 year old girl in Nottingham City Centre. The girl was in fact an adult, acting as a decoy for an OCAG. Prior to the meeting Rogers expressed on a number of occasions his desire to have sex with the 13 year old girl and sent multiple sexual images of himself. He was sentenced at Nottingham crown court where he received 4 and a half years imprisonment and a sexual harm prevention order for 5 years.

- 2.14 Operation Turquoise was the investigation into a stranger rape that occurred in early December 2019 off Carlton Road, Nottingham. The victim had been out with friends and upon leaving a city night club she became disorientated as she was heavily intoxicated. She began to make her way home, which was only a short distance away, but became lost. She had limited memory of the events that followed but recalled meeting a male who subsequently attacked and raped her. No suspect was identified initially but a lengthy investigation finally identified Paul Warrington through a car key left behind. The officers undertook a tireless investigation, which led to Warrington's only option to plead guilty and he was subsequently sentenced to 9 years imprisonment.
- 2.15 As an organisation we are aware of the importance of our mental health and wellbeing and that of the communities we serve. Our Mental Health Street Triage Team is made up of medical professionals from Nottinghamshire Healthcare working alongside front line officers, providing an integrated response to incidents where those affected present with mental health issues. Throughout lockdown, the team continued to support people, recognising the impact that the pandemic was having and continues to have, on people's lives. The team do a fantastic job delivering care to those with complex needs or in situations where traditional policing methods might not be appropriate. This provision is critical in protecting people from the harm that mental health can do and helping to keep our communities safe and secure.

3.0 Strategic Theme 2: Helping and Supporting Victims

3.1 Helping and supporting victims of crime remains central to our core aims and objectives. We work tirelessly to bring those responsible for criminal acts to justice and to provide appropriate support to victims and witnesses throughout our investigations.

3.2 The Criminal Justice system has seen a significant backlog of court cases as a result of the pandemic. The backlog of cases has now been listed in Nottinghamshire but the clearance date has been projected to be 16th February 2021, which is the latest in the region. Nevertheless, the backlog clearance trajectory date has been brought forward from 31st March 2021 due to CPS lawyer resource being temporarily switched across to Nottingham from Northampton and thereby facilitating a number of additional Not Guilty Anticipated Plea (NGAP) Courts. HMCTS and CPS are also looking at additional NGAP resource to further bring forward the trajectory date into December 2020. Reviews of low level, victimless cases already in the system are being undertaken in an attempt to discontinue cases that are no longer deemed in the public interest or to use an alternative out of court disposal to reduce the demand on the courts. However there remains a real risk to the volume of multi-defendant cases awaiting trial at the Crown Court due to HMCTS operational practices.

The pre-charge support function was extended to the Mansfield Prisoner Handling Team as of 9th October and the pre-charge Criminal Justice team was almost fully staffed by 5th October. This will enable the team to process far more pre-charge files on behalf of officers in order to provide the CPS with a better quality file resulting in obtaining quicker charging decisions for the victims and witnesses of crime.

The prosecutions section has gone through a robust 6 month review process whereby all functions have been process mapped in order to identify efficiencies and pinch points. This has resulted in many changes being proposed, including a cradle to grave approach so that file preparers have case ownership and to reduce duplication. The section will also benefit from an evidential review meaning that cases which have a realistic prospect of conviction should get a quicker court date. This increases the chance of obtaining a successful outcome for the victims and witnesses of crime.

3.3 The Police ICT company have developed the Cyber Tools app, which was initially designed by the Met. We have introduced this in Nottinghamshire to assist front line and operational staff with cyber and digital related matters. Cyber Crime continues to grow in both volume and threat and this app will help ensure that officers and staff have the knowledge and capability to deal with it. It provides users with the ability to respond to cyber crime consistently and competently across all parts of the Force area. It is essential that our staff and officers are able to adapt and respond to changing crime types in order to efficiently and effectively help and support victims of crime.

3.4 I regularly receive thank you letters from local groups and individuals who we have supported as victims and from members of the community.

My officers continue to conduct themselves with great assurance and professionalism whilst dealing with some shocking and emotionally challenging incidents. They continue to provide support to victims and their affected families.

- 3.5 As I reported previously, the Public Protection Department has engaged in collaborative provision of services with the co-location of specialist support services at both of our Public Protection hubs. Independent Sexual Violence Advocates (ISVAs) and the same service for children and young people (CHISVAs) work closely with officers to ensure service provision in relevant cases.
- 3.6 I am proud of our commitment to working in partnership to tackle stalking. In addition to the update around Stalking Protection Orders mentioned in the previous section our Public Protection staff continue to work in collaboration with partner agencies to deliver a monthly multi-agency stalking clinic, assessing and acting on the risks posed by perpetrators in order to improve the lives of victims.
- 3.7 Following some excellent partnership working in 2019/20, Nottinghamshire Police and both Local Authorities share information of children who are subject to Child Protection Plans (CPP). The new safeguarding arrangements for children are also now in place, both in the City and County, following the introduction of Working Together 2018. Now known as the Safeguarding Children Partnerships, we are fully embedded in these arrangements, both at a strategic and tactical level. These arrangements mean that we can provide additional help and support to child who are victims of abuse.
- 3.8 I am able to update on our response to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). An independent external evaluation of our practices concerning harmful sexual behaviour including responses, prevention, assessment, intervention and workforce development took place in November/December 2019, under commission to the NSPCC. The NSPCC has concluded its evaluation, presenting its findings in a joint event on 17th July 2020 and the delivery plan is being led by Nottingham City Council.
- 3.9 Supporting people who need our help and upholding the victim code of practice is at the heart of what we do and I always see examples where my staff and officers provide an excellent service to victims of crime. The following are just a couple of recent outcomes, which highlight this ongoing commitment.

PCSO Lucy Oram, recently received praise from a therapist in the City Council who deals with young people, regarding her involvement in a case and her professionalism, which undoubtedly helped her support a member of the community. The therapist said, "I am the allocated therapist supporting a family who live in the Radford area and I have been engaging with PCSO Lucy Oram throughout my time working with the family. Just wanted to pass on my feedback regarding her support so far as I have always found her to be outstanding. She has always been available to talk and offer advice, she met with myself and parent to discuss the situation and she was welcoming, supportive, well-informed, knowledgeable, non-judgmental, warm amongst many, many more. She really has been a great network of support for myself and for parents."

A Neighbourhood Policing Team recently dealt with an issue at Bulwell Forest. One of the residents there had been causing ASB and significant issues for one of his neighbours in particular. The beat team worked with Community Protection and Metropolitan Housing to problem solve the matter. However, during a recent visit to the address to discuss the breach of a Community Protection Warning Notice the resident became aggressive and assaulted the Housing Manager as well as making threats to harm another resident. Statements were collected from professionals and witnesses at the address and the subject was interviewed. Two charges were authorised for Public Order offence Fear or provocation of violence and Assault by Beating. The Community Protection Team have thanked the beat team for their decisive action in the matter and for taking robust steps to manage the suspect and his unacceptable behaviour.

4.0 Strategic Theme 3: Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

4.1 In Nottinghamshire, police recorded crime decreased by 8,778 offences in the 12 months to June 2020. These figures can largely be attributed to the impact of restrictions due to COVID-19. However, in July the Office of National Statistics published the full year of crime figures for 2019/20. These statistics showed that all crime fell across Nottinghamshire with 457 fewer incidents report to police. Burglary fell from 7,866 to 7,660, knife crime dropped from 887 to 769 offences and crimes such as violence with injury, sexual offences, robbery, bike offences, shoplifting, and criminal damage and arson all fell when compared to the 12 months prior. This reduction in crime is hugely reassuring and is testament to the hard work taking place across the organisation to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. The Force's neighbourhood policing model and increase in frontline staff have undoubtedly led to this reduction in crime along with specific policing operations, such as Operation Reacher, and dedicated knife crime, robbery and burglary teams in the City working with communities and our partners.

4.2 Since launching in April 2018, Operation Reacher has seen millions of pounds worth of drugs, hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of cash and hundreds of illegal vehicles taken off the county's streets, alongside securing a number of significant convictions as a result. In June we took delivery of the first of the new cars that are now being used to target local criminals and those involved in serious and organised crime across the county.

Dedicated Reacher teams were introduced in the remaining twelve neighbourhood policing areas across Nottinghamshire on Monday 5 October 2020. Their job is to proactively build links with their local communities, guide people away from a life of crime and to pursue and disrupt the people in those communities who cause most harm. As part of the expansion, each of the remaining neighbourhood teams were joined by a team of six new officers, each led by a sergeant and an Operation Reacher car. The new teams join the rest of the neighbourhood policing family and add additional pressure on those who routinely engage in serious criminality to tackle this crime and anti-social behaviour.

On the first day of the extended team drugs, cash and weapons were seized with a series of warrants across Nottinghamshire. A 25 year old man was arrested following the warrants in Burnside Road, Westerham Close, Darnhill Crescent and Chidlow Road. 2 illegal tasers were also seized during the search of a property. This was a fantastic result by the teams and I know that working with communities and partners, we will see more results like these over the months to come.

Another excellent yield in the first week of action saw a recovery of nearly two kilograms of cocaine from a property in Radford as officers from a Reacher Team worked with colleagues from Warwickshire Police in the execution of a warrant to find a local man that was wanted. The 45 year old man was also located and arrested in relation to the possession and supply of drugs.

4.3 Previously I outlined how our innovative policing tactic with regards to the use of a police drone, introduced in January, is helping us to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. This excellent work has continued and at the beginning of September, officers attended

reports of a cross boarder case over in Newark following reports of theft of Asian gold jewellery. Following information passed to us by Lincolnshire Police, the Roads Policing Team, along with Armed Response Vehicles (ARVs), dogs and the drone were all in action pursuing suspects who rammed a Police vehicle and then made off on foot through gardens. The drone was able to follow over the gardens whilst passing communications to officers on the ground, which led to three arrests. The drone has now been directly involved in 47 arrests (data to September 2020).

A number of Special Constables have now also joined the Drone Team to support spontaneous and pre-planned operations. This will all help us to improve efficiencies and effectiveness regarding deployments meaning that we can provide this resource to officers on the ground around the force quickly and safely.

- 4.4 Operation Xylographer concluded in June with the sentencing of 11 offenders for conspiring to supply Class A and Class B drugs. Kane Price received a 12 year custodial term for his leading role within the group. Reece Hofton, also categorised as a leading defendant, was sentenced to 7 years and 4 months. Simon Beatson received 7 years and 9 months for his significant role and Donelle McDonald received 5 years for a lesser role. In addition to his involvement with the group for drugs supply, Alex Palmer also received a consecutive sentence for possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence totalling 4 years. The investigation team worked tenaciously for over a year, investigating this highly complex case, and ultimately removing the criminal gang from the streets. The result showcases the breadth of work undertaken by members of the Serious and Organised Crime Task Force, tasked from inception and culminating with the significant custodial sentences, tackling serious crime and protecting the community for a generation.
- 4.5 In August a 16 year old boy was found guilty and sentenced to 13 years in prison for the murder of Ezekiel Clarke. Ezekiel was just 17 years old when he was murdered in Radford in February after being stabbed twice. The offender was also found guilty of robbery and possession of a bladed article in a separate incident. In addition, 19 year old Jaheim Williams was also found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 7 and a half years in prison for Ezekiel's murder. Whilst the sentences given will never fill the void left by the loss of Ezekiel for his family and friends, they do give a clear message that Nottinghamshire Police will not tolerate people carrying knives. As highlighted in section 2.3 above, Nottinghamshire Police has a dedicated Knife Crime Team committed to tackling violent crime along with a range of tactics and operations that we use to prevent and reduce knife crime. We investigate all reports of knife crime thoroughly and we work with our partners to tackle violent crime through education and enforcement. We will not tolerate these crimes and invite anyone who knows of someone who carries a knife to report their concerns to us.
- 4.6 A burglar who confronted a frightened woman in her own home was tracked down and arrested minutes later thanks to the good thinking of a passing bus driver. Kelvin Briggs, 48, climbed over a garden fence in broad daylight before forcing his way through a set of patio doors and confronting the woman in her kitchen. A bus driver who was taking a

break spotted him scaling the fence. The driver saw Briggs outside the address in March and immediately called the police. Inside the property – and out of sight of the driver – Briggs demanded cash from his victim and the keys to her car. However, after hearing the approaching sirens he fled the scene with only five pounds in cash. As the driver began to follow Briggs he remained in contact with the Nottinghamshire Police control room and was later able to direct officers to a neighbour's garden where he was found hiding. Briggs, of London Road, Nottingham, appeared at Nottingham Crown Court on 10th September after admitting an offence of burglary. He was sentenced to four months in prison suspended for two years and ordered to complete 150 hours of unpaid work. This kind of intrusive burglary can have a lasting impact on victims and the calm actions of the bus driver brought the incident to an early conclusion.

4.7 Some good work by the previous Street Offences Team, which were a dedicated team to tackle street crime and violence in the Arboretum area, is very noteworthy. The team came together in June 2018 and were a team of 4 officers. Over the 27 months they made 418 arrests, conducted 560 stop and searches, reported 268 people for summons or other out of court disposal and seized 189 vehicles. The good work of this small team has impacted hugely on the quality of life and safety of residents and visitors to the Arboretum area. The team will naturally be succeeded by the new Operation Reacher team who will continue this good work.

4.8 I provided an update on how we are improving our understanding of hate crime and working with partners to tackle this in my previous update report. As we continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic on our communities, we have seen a shift in hate crime reporting with new hotspot areas that include smaller shops and neighbourhoods with a marked reduction in the city centre as a result of the slow in footfall in the night time economy. We have observed an increase in online reporting as people turn to technology to communicate and we have turned to the internet and social media ourselves to take part in online PRIDE and other events such as hate crime awareness week.

Together with partners we have changed our focus to new initiatives to better engage with our communities using new materials translated into Cantonese and Arabic improving our ability to deliver messages and respond to various communities. This also encourages reporting in a time when social cohesion has been affected by the impact of global events. We have sought to bring our collective response to areas that need it the most and have helped secure funding for 8 places of worship to assist with new security measures.

Overall reporting figures have seen a small increase in comparison to the same time last year with a 3.55% increase in crime and an overall increase of 1.13% inclusive of all incidents. We currently hold an 86% conviction rate and satisfaction rates remain stable at 84.5%.

4.10 We are continuing to further professionalise our approach to tackling serious and organised crime by adapting our approach and responding to changes. I can report that in relation to modern slavery and county lines, data around the increase in intelligence

reports shows that offending known to the force is increasing. Officers and partners have received training from the Modern Slavery Human Trafficking and County Lines teams equipping them with the tools to recognise the signs of these crimes at the earliest opportunity. In addition, a national report published recently by the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) showed that Nottinghamshire Police were the 5th highest in terms of the number of charges granted and non-charges directed (so cases referred to the prosecuting authority).

- 4.11 In September, a 35 year old man was charged with modern slavery offences. Elvis Scriparu, a 35 year old living in New Basford, was charged with arranging or facilitating travel of another person with a view to exploitation, requiring a person to perform forced labour and having possession of criminal property. The victim required specialist support by officers from Nottinghamshire Police and partner agencies. This was a good result and Scriparu will appear at Nottingham Crown Court on 21st October.
- 4.12 Finally for this section, I wanted to update on Operation Relentless, which was a plain clothes operation for the City Centre. It was designed to deal with drug issues, in particular around Mamba at its inception, however it has now developed in the City Centre with the proactive team dealing with all drugs and weapon crime. During the past 22 months, I can report that there have been 1,143 drug offences, predominantly finding drugs on people; 568 people arrested for various offences, including theft, weapons and criminal damage. 55 weapons were seized, including knives, knuckle dusters and metal poles. 632 intelligence submissions were made. 46 offenders were identified from images on the basis of the local knowledge gained by officers. This is excellent work by the team as they continue to tackle crime and the impact caused by the use of drugs. Operation Relentless was superseded by Operation Reacher in October.
- 4.13 I hear of many good news stories every day where officers and staff continue to tackle crime and anti-social behavior. I have outlined a number of these in section 6 below to give just a sample of some of the exceptionally good work that we are doing to reduce crime and continue to keep people safe.

5.0 Strategic Theme 4: Transforming Services and Delivering Quality Policing

- 5.1 As part of Operation Uplift we are continuing to recruit new officers to the force. As I updated in my previous report, we are recruiting 282 new officers throughout 2019-2020, including 24 transferees. This will take us to a total of 2,237 police officers at the year end and which will include 150 Operation Uplift officers for year 2 of the campaign. We have also welcomed new staff and officers into Learning and Development, to ensure we can support, educate and develop our new recruits effectively, and ensure that we achieve high levels of retention.

Despite the pandemic, we have continued to lead the way in respect of Operation Uplift and have welcomed further cohorts throughout the year. Many other forces have halted their recruitment and training programmes but Nottinghamshire Police has pushed on. We have adapted our attestation ceremonies, holding these outdoors as well as virtually and having them filmed so that the new officers' family and friends don't miss out on the occasion.

- 5.2 I provided an update in my previous report about the new joint Police and Fire HQ building at Sherwood Lodge. Since then, the construction work has commenced with the project running on schedule and under budget. At the time of writing this report, the steel structure is in place for the three storey building, which is being built on land behind the existing Nottinghamshire Police Headquarters at Sherwood Lodge.
- 5.3 Work continues to progress at a good pace on the new custody suite project in the City with the current stages on track to construct the interview rooms, consultation booths and other aspects of the custody suite.
- 5.4 Programme Regain is underway to bring the support services previously outsourced via Multi-Force Shared Services (MFSS) back to the force. An invitation to tender has been issued to suppliers and four supplier submissions had been received on 1st October. These are in respect of individual component systems with 1 bid for HR & Payroll, 1 bid for Finance and 2 bids for Learning and Development. Work on data cleansing has commenced by each of the key service areas. Other work on data extraction from MFSS is ongoing and a plan is being developed. Further areas such as extending the use of the Notts Information Services (IS) service desk software is being explored to replace the service module provided by MFSS for areas such as reporting estates related issues. I'm really pleased that progress with this programme will improve efficiency of some of the critical functions within force and allow usual business to continue.
- 5.5 As part of our collaboration with Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service we have built a memorial garden at Police Headquarters with two obelisks with names engraved to remember officers and staff from both organisations. On Friday 16th October we held an opening event with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Fire Officer, High Sheriff and the Police and Fire chaplains to pay tribute to those who have passed away whilst serving the Force or Fire and Rescue Service for Nottinghamshire. This was an opportunity to reflect on the service given by those who demonstrated clear dedication to

their role with the force or the fire service and I was immensely proud to pay tribute to them in this way. While we were unable to invite all families to the opening event it was filmed and shared with them to provide a memento of the occasion.

- 5.6 Our Citizens in Policing Department (CiPD) have continued with their youth engagement despite COVID-19 in a more socially distanced format. The 13 police cadet bases are now aligned with Operation Reacher to ensure that community policing teams are embedded firmly within the youth strategy. It is hoped that this will yield better relationships between police and youths, particularly in areas where this has historically been a challenge. New recruits through Operation Uplift have taken opportunities to also support the cadet process, thereby ensuring the importance of community relations from the beginning of their respective careers. Our cadet numbers stand at 215. Representation is also healthy, with over 20% of participants coming from BAME backgrounds.

The force's Mini Police programme goes from strength to strength, and 1,560 pupils are touched by the offering, up from 440 in the last financial year. Virtual technology is being used by the delivery team to support key messages and updates to participants. We have altered the structure and the Schools Officers now sit within CiPD, which ensures that this business owns the entirety of youth engagement for the force. The force has employed a schools careers officer, who has settled in nicely, and is working with local academies and Trusts, to build opportunities for local youths, not only for potential officer recruitment opportunities, but also for key staff and apprentice positions. This shows that Nottinghamshire is driven to become a local employer of choice.

- 5.7 The city centre continues to retain its Purple Flag status through effective working with the Nottingham Business Improvement District (BID) and local authority partners. Purple Flag is an Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) accreditation scheme that recognises excellence in the management of town and city centres at night.
- 5.8 I'm pleased to report that the development of the new Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) is now in advanced stages. The unit is being built next to the current facility at Oxclose Lane. This updated capability will provide enhanced support and forensic examinations and has been designed in consultation with survivor groups and key partners. This will undoubtedly transform the service we are able to offer to victims of these horrendous crimes and provide them with enhanced support when they need it most. Completion of the unit is expected in April 2022.
- 5.9 One of our retired police inspectors has recently been appointed as an expert advisor to the government's High Street Task Force to help re-imagine and re-invent the traditional high street and design out crime. Mr Stones now works for Nottinghamshire Police as a civilian and his role will be to advise the local planning authorities and business groups on how to prevent crime by consulting on new and existing developments. This is about transforming services and delivering quality policing through advice provided by a member of Nottinghamshire Police staff to the national group.

5.10 In September we ran this year's process of the Force Annual Departmental Assessments (ADA). This is a critical part of the force's business cycle and allows the Chief Officer Team to assess, approve and prioritise proposals by Heads of Department allowing these to progress to project plans and business cases. We will use the business cases prepared by Departments to continue to transform services in each area and deliver quality policing across every area of the Force.

6. Some further key results

- 6.1 Officers from the Force's Foreign National Offender team recently arrested a man on suspicion drugs supply offences in Poland. Having received the European Arrest Warrant issued by the Polish authorities, the team detained a 40-year-old man at an address in Mansfield in the early hours of the morning on 24th September. He appeared at Westminster Magistrates' Court the same day for an extradition hearing.

This was the third European Arrest Warrant that Nottinghamshire's Foreign National Offender team has acted on in less than a week, having arrested a 64-year-old man on suspicion of a murder in Paris on Saturday (19 September) and a 51-year-old man on suspicion of a burglary in Poland on Sunday (20 September). The team worked hard to complete their investigations working alongside colleagues in Poland, resulting in a quick arrest.

- 6.2 Over the summer there were a spate of violent robbery and weapon offences that are continuing to be investigated by detectives. Logan Davies, 18 of Rose Close St Ann's and a 15 year old boy were charged with a total of 42 offences. In October another man, Kenneth Bromfield, 63 of Union Street, Beeston was charged with a total of 14 robbery weapons offences relating to 4 separate incidents. There have been a total of 56 charges as a result of the team's excellent investigation and enquiries are ongoing.
- 6.3 A high value burglary where tens of thousands of pounds of jewellery was stolen led to an arrest. Officers were called to the break-in at Goldsmiths Jewellers in Victoria Street on Saturday 23rd May with the incident believed to have occurred overnight on the 22nd. A 36 year old man was arrested in October on suspicion of burglary in connection with the incident. After the period of lockdown this was a real blow for the business and officers are continuing with their investigations to bring those responsible to justice.
- 6.4 Officers arrested and charged a 38 year old woman back in September after she was found with Mamba in her flat. Mary Ann KEANE of Tewkesbury Drive in Old Basford was charged with offering to supply Class C drugs and possession with intent to supply Mamba. Keane was recalled to prison for a separate blackmail offence which she was on license for. We take drugs offences very seriously and thoroughly investigate any reports made to us.
- 6.5 Work has been carried out in St Anns during September with regards to class A drug dealing and weapons carrying. Giovanni HODELIN-BLAIR resides in St Anns and has featured on the knife crime cohort on a number of occasions, has been arrested for possession of weapons and is heavily involved in the supply of controlled Class A drugs. He is also a person of interest within an Organised Crime Group. Complaints of anti-social behaviour and youths gathering around his address along with the threatening, taxing and intimidation of drug users were common place. He has been targeted by the

Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) and the Knife Crime Team over the last 12 months and has been arrested on a number of occasions for possession with intent to supply (PWITS) and weapons offences. The most recent offence was after he and a group of associates ran from a vehicle and were found in the rear garden of his home address. A number of bundles of Class A drugs were recovered and HODELIN-BLAIR and Tarnie SIMPSON were both arrested for PWITS Heroin and Crack Cocaine and subsequently bailed pending forensics. Intelligence continued to come in around both males, but given the fact they were released under investigation pending CPS charge decision, the intelligence was collated and warrants were applied for both home addresses. This enabled us to expedite the case and as soon as the charge authority was received the NPT assisted by Neighbourhood Support Unit serials executed the warrants and both males were further arrested. They have both been charged and remain on court bail pending trial.

- 6.6 In September officers from Ashfield neighbourhood policing team, supported by colleagues from the Police dog unit, carried out 3 nights of action in response to local concerns. Drugs, weapons and an uninsured car were taken off the streets during the targeted policing operation. Seven arrests were made for a range of offences including possession of weapons, possession with intent to supply drugs, driving whilst disqualified and violence offences. In addition to the arrests, several vehicles were stopped due to the manner in which they were being driven and words of advice were given along with one uninsured vehicle being seized. Nottinghamshire Police take all reports of dangerous driving seriously and will act to tackle these issues and remove dangerous drivers from our roads.