

## **Commissioner's response to Staffordshire Police latest Performance Report (incorporating Specified Information Order Statement on National Crime and Policing Measures)**

Staffordshire Commissioner for Police, Fire & Rescue and Crime Ben Adams remains keen that key measures demonstrate the progress being made against delivering the service-level ambitions in his Police & Crime Plan, the Staffordshire Policing Plan, and the National Crime & Policing Measures (NCPM). A Summary of key measures is reviewed at each quarterly Strategic Governance Board and bi-annually at Public Performance Meetings including local priorities and those that form the national Digital Crime Performance Pack (DCPP). This formal response is designed to satisfy the statutory requirement to comment on Staffordshire's contribution to national measures. The Commissioner is satisfied that, where appropriate, Staffordshire Police use local data to demonstrate their current position and we await guidance on the new government's intentions regarding the existing NCPM measures.

### **1. Public Confidence & Victim Surveys**

#### **1.1. Public Perception Surveys**

Alongside the refreshed Police & Crime Plan, local public concerns remain highest around communication, and engagement and reassurance. This mirrors national trends, the latest CSEW reports a downward trend across different categories related to confidence in the local police in recent years.

Where data is available for Staffordshire alone in the CSEW and in local Insight surveys there has been significant deterioration in several metrics and the Commissioner is keen to see activity targeting improvements in service to the public to move the dial in these metrics. The force is now working on recording more detail at Local Policing Team (LPT) level in support of the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee and is keen to reduce variation across LPTs. Detail included in performance report is used as part of individual team performance management to encourage communication and sharing what works to improve public confidence.

#### **1.2. Reduce Neighbourhood Crime (NCPM)**

Neighbourhood Crime has reduced by 11% compared with the previous year with the largest decrease in Residential Burglary of a Home. Whilst LPTs have been boosted with officer numbers, there has been additional support provided allowing LPTs to effectively utilise central teams such as armed response and the road crime team to tighten the grip around offenders. All LPT's have a named officer contactable online.

#### **1.3. Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour**

An 5.6% increase has been seen compared with the previous 12 months although volumes remain well below pre-pandemic levels. Volumes of ASB have been increasing over the last 5 months with high volumes seen in the last 3 months and is following the expected seasonal pattern. The highest increases are seen in Cannock and Moorlands, both showing increases of 31%.

In collaboration with youth offending teams, Community Safety Partnerships and local authorities will need to take ownership in order to intervene and divert behaviour. In the current landscape, with less money than in previous years and the destabilised environment due to devolution prospects, there remains opportunities for impactful partnerships and shared endeavours allowing districts to put forward bids for specific prevention and intervention activity to impact community priorities.

## 1.4. Outcomes

Arrest rates have increased and there has been an associated substantial step-up in CJ outcome rates, with Staffordshire now in the top half of forces nationally (18th out of 42 forces) and third out of the eight most similar forces. Positive outcomes have been gradually increasing and sit at 16.1% for the last 12 months, while July sits at 15.3% after a higher rate of 17.2% in June. This is linked to the continued focus on quality of investigations and supervision. A slight decrease (-2.3%) in outcome 18 – no suspect identified is seen in the last 12 months, but a similar increase has been seen (+2.2%) in 14 – victim declines to identify suspect. Charges/Postal Requisitions have increased (+1.1%) to 10.5% in the last 12 months, while July sits at 9.8 after a higher rate in June of 11.2%. Community resolutions use varies by LPT with some areas at 6% or above while others are around 4%.

## 2. An outstanding local Police Service: Local Crime Priorities

### 2.1. Rural Crime

Grade one response performance data will be updated to include urban vs rural split. The Commissioner was interested in how the rural urban split can be decided at Neighbourhood (LPT) level alone but was reassured to note that the rural flag has been allocated at Readily Identifiable Area (RIA) level so is much more nuanced than LPT level.

### 2.2. Vehicle Crime

Vehicle Crime is down 7% compared with the previous 12 months and against the baseline of 2019 remains down 9%.

## 3. Preventing and protecting: National Crime Performance Measures

### 3.1. Reduce Murder and other Homicide (NPCM)

Alcohol, drug misuse and mental health are common factors in murder investigations. Many of these murders are the result of broader social issues and require a long-term holistic approach to breaking the generational cycle of violence.

Staffordshire is not an outlier in national Homicide data from the national Digital Crime & Performance Pack, sitting 6<sup>th</sup> out of 8 most similar forces and 24<sup>th</sup> out of 42 forces for rate of homicides per million. 8 recorded homicides in the last 12 months compared with 13 in the previous year. The force will continue to focus on tackling DA, intervening early with a Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) approach focused on offenders and acceptable behaviour.

### 3.2. Reduce Serious Violence (NPCM): inc DA and VAWG

**Serious violence\* includes Knife and Gun Crime, Personal and Business Robbery, Violence with Injury**

Nationally this is measured through hospital admissions of under-25s for assault with a sharp object, and Police-recorded information of offences involving discharge of a firearm. A local measure for knife crime and gun crime is used to show Staffordshire's position and this is used as a benchmark for future progress.

Knife Crime remains stable (-0.15%) compared to the previous year. Compared to our most similar forces (MSF), Staffordshire is 5<sup>th</sup> (of 8) and 28<sup>st</sup> out of 42 in national comparison.

Gun Crime has decreased by 18.3% compared to the previous year. Largest decrease is in Violence with Injury (-13). Compared to our most similar forces (MSF), Staffordshire is 1<sup>st</sup> (of 8) and 5<sup>th</sup> out of 42 in national comparison.

Serious Violence remains stable (-2.7%) compared to the previous year, the majority of the decrease is in Violence with Injury (-492).

DA has decreased by 1.8% compared to the previous year. VAWG has seen a 3.6% (1,817) increase compared to the previous 12 months.

### **3.3. Disrupt Drugs Supply and County Lines (NPCM)**

Staffordshire is not a national outlier for recorded drugs crime within the drugs section (per 100,000 population) of the Home Office DCP, compared to the national baseline 2019. Staffordshire has a 49% increase in the last 12 months to June 2025 compared to the 2019 baseline attributed to proactive policing activity.

### **3.4. Tackle Cyber Crime (NCPM)**

Staffordshire uses a local proxy measure to measure cybercrime, incorporating cyber-dependent crimes which are managed nationally by the City of London Police. The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau reviews and disseminates investigations to local forces which were recorded by Action Fraud. Cyber-enabled crimes are those owned by Staffordshire Police which have a cyber/online element to them. Action Fraud cases are reported to National Action Fraud and some cases are forwarded to Staffordshire Police to investigate. The majority of outcomes for fraud in the last 12 months are Investigation Complete no suspect identified (33%) This has decreased by 3.9% (-18) compared to the previous year. An increasing proportion of fraud outcomes are 15 police NFA is 21% and this has increased by 7.6% (+110) compared to the previous year. An increasing proportion of fraud outcomes are victim does not wish to pursue is 18% and this has increased by 3.7% (+60) compared to the previous year.

There was an increase of 1.6% in Action Fraud cases reported by Staffordshire residents compared to the previous 12 months and a reduction of 3.5% in the cases referred back to Staffordshire to be investigated.

All NCPM measures are reviewed at regular performance meetings alongside a dashboard of key metrics and the Commissioner will publish his commentary again following the Police Public Performance Meeting in November 2025.