

Community Safety Forum Performance Overview**Total Recorded Crime**

Since April 2009 there has been a reduction in overall crime of 1.2% compared to the same period last year although this is still below our 3% target. This is a continuation of a positive trend with total crime being the lowest experienced in the past ten years.

Criminal Damage

This area of crime is showing a 1.8% increase compared to the same period last year although last year recorded criminal damage was exceptionally low.

Violent Crime

The actual number of offences of serious violent crime recorded is extremely small forming 3% of total crime, that is 83 offences recorded since the beginning of April, this is an increase of 8% compared to the same period last year, that is 9 more crimes.

Offences of actual bodily harm, less serious violent crime, have decreased. The police are currently detecting 33% of these cases, an improvement on the 29% achieved at the end of 2008.

Looking at violent crime overall, which includes a wider number of offences, it has reduced considerably over time and this has contributed considerably to the relatively low overall crime levels in the city. Violent crime has reduced over the past four years by 24% with the central area seeing a reduction of 30%.

This is directly attributable to work around the night time economy. In addition to the policing operation, Operation Marble which puts officers on the street at night, there has been consistently good work between all agencies to manage safety around the night time economy. This was recognised by the city gaining Beacon status.

Burglary

Since April burglary has increased by 6.8% compared to the same period last year although there has been an improvement over the last month. Looking back over a five year period levels are still significantly lower than the five year average. The central and west areas of the city have seen noticeable increases with a rising number of these being attributable to young offenders in addition to drug dependent offenders. As part of the police plan to

counteract this there are new working practices in place that allow better sharing of information and intelligence between the police and agencies working with young people including the YOS. In addition to this neighbourhood police teams continue to provide advice to victims and patrol and give crime prevention advice in hotspot areas.

Vehicle Crime

Between April and September there has been an increase of 2.5 compared to the same period last year. Theft from motor vehicles remains the greatest threat accounting for 66% of all vehicle crime and recently we have seen particular increases in some city centre car parks. Environmental conditions play a significant part with regard to the vulnerability of car parks to this type of crime. Following environmental audits improvements have been made such as the installation of better quality lighting, leafleting and crime prevention signage. Drug addicted offenders remain the most common offender group with a similar rise in young offenders as is evident in burglaries.

Hate crimes and Incidents

Domestic violence is a particular focus area for improvement for the police and partners at the moment. The police currently achieve a 37% detection rate, partnership work continues to improve reporting, services to victims and work to reduce the attrition rate in the criminal justice system. With regard to racist/religiously motivated crimes and incidents, staff and the Racial Harassment Forum are considering a more meaningful measure of success, incidents recorded on the PCST RRMI database continue to show an increased level of reporting from agencies other than the police. LGBT recorded hate crimes and incidents are falling, the LGBT Strategy group is considering an online survey as one means to gauge trust and confidence.