



National Crime Measures: Upcoming action July 2021

1) Reduce homicides

Northumbria has a low number of homicides and the majority of these are drug and alcohol

The Force has a number of intervention and diversion activities to discourage the use and supply of controlled drugs, including out of court disposal panels for juveniles in each local authority. Adult intervention and treatment is being expanded to include offenders who have previous convictions, this will use include Local Authorities delivering interventions with “revolving door” individuals for low level drugs offence. The force is supporting the VRU in working with and expanding a network of link workers to engage and work with those vulnerable to drugs and alcohol. Drug testing upon arrest is being developed across the Force and forms part of the work under Project Adder in Newcastle .

2) Reduce serious violence

Northumbria Police has been allocated £906k by the Home Office as part of the GRIP Programme to tackle knife crime and serious violence. The focus of GRIP is to deliver hotspot policing in local settings using a refined data-led approach. The aim is to immediately suppress and reduce serious violence, to take control of serious violence in key locations, the streets and the neighbourhoods that are most affected by these crimes

Firearms discharges in Northumbria tend to be sporadic in nature and generally linked to Organised Crime Group feuds. The force has introduced new measures to enhance the force’s understanding of current and emerging threat around the criminal use of firearms and improve the targeted action against the highest harm individuals involved in the criminal use of firearms

3) Disrupt drugs supply and county lines

Northumbria Police are raising awareness and educating their workforce to better understand County Line methodology and working with partners to develop a vulnerability tracker to identify and safeguard vulnerable victims. The force’s primary effort to tackle drug supply continues to be the arrest phase of Operation Venetic. In partnership with the regional crime unit, NERSOU, there have been 117 arrests, almost £2m seized in cash, 58 kilos of amphetamine, 23 kilos of cocaine, 2.5 kilos of heroin and a kilo of MDMA, as well as cannabis with a street value of around £900,000 seized.



4) Reduce neighbourhood crime

Acquisitive crime types of this nature continue to be managed at a local and force level with active burglary suppression work within Area Commands. Effective offender targeting and management remains essential. A new Neighbourhood Policing Strategy has been developed which places crime and ASB prevention at the centre of neighbourhood activity.

5) Improving victim satisfaction

A new operating model will be introduced to provide a best in class service to victims and witnesses throughout the force area. This addresses the key issues that have been highlighted from victim experience. The key benefits will include improvement in the reach of Cope and Recovery services, as well as across the Criminal Justice System, providing an improvement in overall victim satisfaction. It is hoped this will also contribute to increased number of victims receiving justice through the Criminal Justice System.

6) Tackling cyber crime

With increasing access to the internet and as a result of the lock down, cyber-crime continues to escalate in volume and complexity, often committed by offenders overseas. At a national level, ransomware and other cyber-attacks, such as network intrusions, continue to rise.

Education and work with industry and academia continues in order to reduce the likelihood of individuals or businesses becoming victims of cyber-crime. The Force, together with regional dedicated protect officers, offer vulnerability assessments to businesses who have been victim to cyber breaches, and also offer the service of 'cyber alarm' which provides network monitoring to identify suspicious traffic.

The force continues to invest in additional training and exposure of cyber-crime investigations to officers and staff.