



## National Crime Measures: Upcoming action

October 2021

### 1) Reduce homicides

The majority of homicides in the force area are drug or alcohol related, and the force uses a number of intervention and diversion activities to discourage the use and supply of controlled drugs.

This includes out of court disposal panels for juveniles in each local authority and the Triage Substance Misuse Pathway for adults; an assessment of drug and /or alcohol use with a local treatment provider. Adult intervention and treatment is being expanded to include offenders who have previous convictions, this will use include Local Authorities delivering intervention with revolving door individuals for low level drugs offence.

Drug testing upon arrest is being developed across the Force and forms part of the work under Project Adder.

### 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

### 3) Disrupt drugs supply and county lines

The emerging threat posed by County line activity is very much recognised by Northumbria Police actively seeking to reduce the risk posed to some of our most vulnerable groups. The force is raising awareness and educating the workforce to better understand County Line methodology and working with partners to develop a vulnerability tracker to identify and safeguard vulnerable victims.

The Force is continuing the arrest phase of Operation Venetic. In partnership with 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

A new Neighbourhood Policing Strategy and role profile has been developed which places crime and ASB prevention at the centre of neighbourhood policing activity and focus. The Force has also recently introduced a new Harm Reduction and Communities Team which will ensure best practice is shared across the organisation.

### 5) Improving victim satisfaction

Overall, domestic abuse victims report a high level of satisfaction with the service. Victims left positive feedback about the treatment they received from officers dealing with their report. Action taken is the service aspect which shows the most scope for improvement. A minority of respondents felt that police could have been more diligent in their actions.



KIM MCGUINNESS  
NORTHUMBRIA  
**POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER**

violence  
reduction  
unit

As part of the Victim and Witnesses project a new operating model has been designed to provide a best in class service to victims and witnesses throughout the Force area. The operating model 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, as well as reduced attrition helping to deliver effective justice for our victims.

#### 6) Tackling cyber crime

Cyber-crime is a real and growing threat which is recognised across policing and the government. A partnership approach is vital be it individuals, businesses or organisations across the cyber sector and law enforcement.

Nationally last year there were 24% more convictions and 95% more disruptions and this trend was reflected within Northumbria.

However, cyber- crime is widely under reported and victims are encouraged to report crimes to allow the police to see the whole picture and pursue criminals, and enable partners and the force to give quick time advice to victims to reduce the impact of an attack.

Since March this year the force has delivered 12 webinars covering different aspects of National Cyber Security Centre guidance such as Mitigating Malware and Ransomware Attacks and Cyber Security Toolkit for Boards and in September have delivered 4 Webinars on Phishing. A total of 250 businesses have attended these webinars so far.