National crime data – upcoming actions June 2023

1) Reduce homicides

The following activity and plans are in place:

- A homicide reduction strategy and a problem profile commissioned. The problem profile was completed by 31 January in-line with national requirements.
- A bi-monthly meeting with the VRU is in place to ensure a holistic approach to any reported homicide is taken with the community.
- A combined serious violence and homicide reduction strategy is in place with ongoing work to develop the homicide reduction element.
- Introduction of a homicide prevention rapid review process to conduct quick time reviews of some incidents of serious violence with the aim of identifying areas where positive intervention could prevent further violence between key parties involved or similar locations, situations, or circumstances.
- 2) Reduce serious violence
- The force has a lead for Serious Violence and a strategy is being developed to drive the force priorities and harness the national best practice available. The strategy is underpinned by a coordinated 4 'P' plan (Prevent, Protect, Pursue & Prepare) to deliver and monitor performance outcomes.
- A suppression group for Serious Violence has been established to further develop the existing performance management frameworks and drive the operational delivery of the strategy.
- 3) Disrupt the drugs supply.
- Continued delivery of Operation Venetic, impacting OCGs involved in drugs supply. To date a total of 127 suspects have been arrested, 43 of whom have been charged. A total of 31 individuals have been sentenced following conviction with a total of 176 years 10 months imprisonment being given.
- Continued implementation of Project Adder. Activity across October to December has included 17 warrants executed, 91 arrests, £102,969 cash seized and an estimated £61,955 of drugs seized.
- 4) Reduce neighbourhood crime

- Designing out Crime Officers and Crime Prevention Advisors have been recruited.
- Burglary suppression meetings within Area Commands.
- Ongoing crime prevention initiatives being run locally and utilising Community Engagement Teams to provide inputs to students, migrant workers and others.
- Implementation of a new neighbourhood policing model, investment of 134 extra police officers into neighbourhood policing to enable a proactive, offender targeted approach.

5) Improve victim satisfaction

- The Force has reviewed the current service provision for victims and witnesses. The service includes a new referral method to improve access to cope and recovery support.
- A new engagement/support plan has also been introduced for all victims and witnesses whose case goes to trial, as well as a single point of contact for victims to contact Northumbria Police for further information/updates regarding the investigation. Phase 2 of the victim and witness service has been planned to be implemented in June 2023. This will include further support to officers in providing timely updates to victims in-line with significant events and progress with the investigation.

6) Tackle cyber crime

- Provision of support to schools, colleges and universities who have been subject to attacks and provide guidance in relation to Cyber Security.
- Design and deliver follow-up consultations, which include proactive cyber education around their cyber hygiene and how to best improve it, minimising the chances of them becoming a target for cyber criminals.
- Design and deliver Cyber Choices (Cyber Prevent) sessions with pupils and staff. It is common for young people within academic organisations to test out their tech skills on school networks which can have serious consequences. These sessions aim to identify any tech savvy students who would benefit from a one-to-one intervention from the Cyber Prevent Officer.
- Regular inputs provided to businesses, organisations, charities and local communities covering all the National Cyber Protect messaging relevant to the audience. This includes face to face, webinars covering different aspects of National Cyber Security Centre guidance such as Mitigating Malware and Ransomware Attacks, the Cyber Security Toolkit and advice in relation to Phishing. Such webinars include key NCA Cyber Choices messaging.