National Crime Data – Upcoming Actions August 2024

The following actions and plans are in place:

1) **Reduce murder and other homicides**

- A combined serious violence and homicide reduction strategy is in place.

- A bi-monthly meeting between Northumbria Police and the Violence Reduction Unit is in place to ensure a holistic approach to any reported homicide is taken with the community.

- A homicide prevention rapid review process has been introduced to conduct quick time reviews of all homicides and 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**

- Serious Violence Dashboard to improve use of data and intelligence to inform operational and preventative resource deployment launch planned for end of August.

- Targeted deployment of the Serious Violence Disruption Unit (SVDU), to pursue, disrupt, and prosecute those who commit knife crime and serious violence.

- Protect Shield – Identifying Serious Violence and ASB hotspot locations and delivery high visibility patrols through both the Police and Local Authorities.

- Divert young people in, or at risk of being involved in gangs and serious violence through intensive, tailored support.

3) **Disrupt drugs supply and county lines**

- Continued delivery of Operation Venetic, impacting OCGs involved in drugs supply. To date a total of 57 individuals have been sentenced following conviction, totalling over 451 years imprisonment.

- Since the beginning of Project ADDER (April 2021) in Newcastle notable results have been achieved including:
    - The execution of 273 search warrants
    - 2,024 arrests
    - 3,021 weapons seized
    - 137 deal line disruptions
    - Drugs seized with an estimated value of £4,185,168

- o Assets seized with an estimated value of £328,900
- o £746,793 cash seized

4) Reduce neighbourhood crime

- In March 2024, the Force made changes to its operating model, focusing on ensuring that the model optimises service to the public. Some of the key changes are:
  - o Change to six area commands to produce greater geographical accountability and alignment to the six local authority partnerships.
  - o Reintroduction of a Neighbourhood Support Team (NST) in Newcastle Area Command to target prolific and high harm acquisitive crime offenders and wanted persons.
  - o Introduction of a second hub in Easington Lane, Sunderland to improve response times, local ownership and better outcomes for the area.
  - o Introduction of a Northern Rural Hub in Morpeth in June, designed to improve response times and build stronger relationships with Communities.

- The neighbourhood model has been well received and continues to have an impact with several successful operations being conducted across communities.

5) Improve victim satisfaction

- The purpose of the Northumbria Victim and Witness Service (NVWS) is to improve the force's service provision to victims and witnesses. NVWS also supports officers by delivering significant event updates to victims of crime on their behalf.

- An internal culture plan is being developed by the People Department which focuses on the expected standards and behaviours of officers/staff in relation to victim satisfaction and the standard of service they provide.

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.

- Delivery of cyber protect advice to victims of cybercrime to educate and improve cyber hygiene to minimise the risk of them becoming repeat victims.
  - Delivery of cyber protect and prepare sessions to community groups, charities, SMEs, and other organisations
  - Disrupt cyber offenders through social media takedown requests of compromised accounts to Meta where appropriate.
  - Delivery of Cyber Choices (Cyber Prevent) sessions with youngsters and staff within the education sector.
  - Delivery of inputs in relation to cyber dependant crime and cryptocurrency to student officers and other departments to generate awareness and improve investigative standards in relation to cyber-crime.