Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Strategic Assurance Board (SAB) of Leicestershire Police progress against the priorities as documented in the Police and Crime Plan (PCP).

Scope of Report

2. This report concentrates on performance in quarter one of the 2015 – 16 year, utilising data up to the end of June 2015.

Background

3. At the SAB meeting on the 8th May 2014, it was agreed that performance reporting to the Strategic Assurance Board would be provided on a quarterly basis. This report, based on the PCP, looks at recorded crime levels in the context of long term trends. This puts the levels of crime being recorded at present into context and also indicates where levels are significantly high, or low, using statistical process control (SPC) methodology.

Reducing Offending and Reoffending

4. Priorities 1 to 4 are reported separately by partnership agencies.
Supporting Victims and Witnesses

5. To increase reporting of domestic abuse and ensure a positive outcome for victims and witnesses of domestic abuse

6. Reports of Domestic Related Violence with Injury offences have been generally higher over the last two years, although there has been a steep fall in reports that is not fully understood at this stage. The fall does coincide with the introduction of the new NICHE crime recording system but it is not clear whether the reduction seen is linked to this as a procedural issue, or whether there has been a genuine fall in monthly offences. The same trend is not evident in domestic violence without injury offences and it is therefore unclear at this stage what the cause of this drop is. This area is discussed in detail at monthly Performance Delivery Group (PDG) meetings, with the strategic lead giving in depth updates of the progress of ongoing work in this area to better understand the issues, and address them alongside other partner agencies.

7. Reports of Domestic Related Violence Without Injury offences are within expected levels and although there have been periods of increased reporting these have generally been followed by a reduction in monthly reports.

8. It is acknowledged that domestic violence is an area of under reporting, and so the Police and partners are working together to try to encourage more victims of this type of crime to feel confident to report.

To increase reporting of serious sexual offences and ensure a positive outcome for victims and witnesses of serious sexual offences
9. The level of recorded Rape offences has remained at a high level in the first quarter, continuing the clear trend of the last three years. Only a third of offences are reported within a week of the offence, which demonstrates a high level of historic reporting. The Force is currently working with partners to look at timeliness of reporting and to see if there is anything more that can be done to help support victims to report offences sooner. The level of historical reporting has increased since the Op Yewtree investigation into historic sexual offences hit the national media, and it is thought that this has influenced more victims of historic sexual abuse to come forward. Victims also feel more confident that the Police will deal with their report effectively.

To increase reporting of hate crimes and ensure a positive outcome for victims and witnesses of hate crime offences

Recorded Crime
10. The levels of recorded hate crime offences remain similar during quarter one to those reported in quarter four of 2014-15. Although there was a significant increase last year to the peak seen in July 2014 the period since has seen a general reducing trend in the levels of reports.

11. Satisfaction levels regarding racist incidents and hate crime have remained stable for the past 12 months, closely fluctuating around the mean expected level.

To prevent ASB and to continuously improve the quality of service and response to victims of anti-social behaviour
12. The level of recorded ASB incidents exhibit a general seasonal pattern of lower levels over the autumn and winter months with an increase in incidents building over the spring and summer period.

13. Reported incidents reached a significantly low point during quarter four 2014–15, and this has been followed by the anticipated seasonal increase over the first quarter of 2015-16. Levels are currently well below the mean expected level and rising at a slower rate than seen in previous years. The weather can have an impact on the levels of reports and any period of prolonged cold or wet weather during the spring and summer months will reduce the volumes of reports.

14. The continued use of the repeat caller database has enabled neighbourhood teams to effectively problem solve persistent issues, such as ASB.

15. The satisfaction level of people affected by ASB showed some signs of recovery during 2014-15 from the significantly low levels seen during the previous year. Satisfaction levels fluctuated closely around the mean expected levels for most of the year. Subsequent levels have deteriorated which can now be seen as a reducing trend that started in July 2014, but was masked by the monthly fluctuations. During the first quarter of 2015-16 satisfaction levels are significantly low. At this point however, despite the reducing trend, it should be noted that satisfaction levels remain in excess of 75%.

To continually improve the quality of service and response to victims of crime

16. All User satisfaction constitutes satisfaction levels from a sample of burglary, vehicle and violent crime victims.

17. As can be seen from the chart above, the overall satisfaction level has fallen during 2014, although the last five months have remained stable at 81%.

18. The full impact of the Edison changes to the Force model will not be evident in satisfaction levels for a number of months. This is due to the lag in surveying crime, and also due to it being reported on a rolling twelve month basis. It would appear from the levels reported during quarter one that there is no significant adverse impact from the introduction of the new structure and policing model as recent months figures include within the rolling twelve months victims who have reported crime since these changes were made.

19. A strategic lead officer has been assigned to this area, and a comprehensive delivery plan around confidence and satisfaction has been established. The implementation of this plan, and the resulting performance, is discussed in detail at both PDG and SCCB meetings and reported in future SAB reports.
20. To continuously improve the police service to the communities of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

21. The latest Community Based Survey (CBS) results show that confidence in Leicestershire Police continues to rise. This is extremely good news and is a strong indicator that the Force continues to address local concerns in an effective way.

22. The above chart shows the overall recorded crime level for the Force.

23. Quarter one reports are all below the mean expected level, which has generally been the case for the past eighteen months. There are significantly low levels of Robbery and Theft From Person offences, and shoplifting offences which did show signs of an increasing trend to significantly high levels during 2013 have also fallen back to generally fluctuate below or around the mean expected level.

24. The longer-term trend in overall crime is evident from the chart above and, monthly levels of offences do appear to have stabilised with a short-term reduction evident over the last twelve months.
To reduce domestic burglary and ensure a positive outcome for victims of burglary offences

Recorded Crime

25. The trend of domestic burglary recorded by the Force in 2014/15 closely resembles the pattern witnessed in the previous year, although at generally lower levels. Quarter one recorded levels are below the mean expected levels, and there is no indication at this stage of any significant shift. It is likely that the seasonal increase seen in previous years may see levels begin to rise over the coming months, but at this point there are no areas of concern with regards to this category of crime.

26. Media messages will offer advice in respect of open windows and doors, as the warmer weather over the summer period can lead to an increase in burglary offences where unsecure premises are entered either in a targeted or an opportunistic burglary.

27. The next quarter will start to see university students returning to the Force area’s three universities. It is known that this group of people are targeted due to the nature of the premises they live in, and the prevalence of valuable items such as TV’s, laptops, tablet computers etc. in multi occupancy homes. Media messages will be targeted at the student population with specific crime prevention advice.

28. Satisfaction levels for burglary have started to improve from the low point witnessed in the winter period. The last five months have seen an improving trend, rising to 88%. It should be noted that the low point in January 2015 still recorded a satisfaction of 86%.
To reduce violence against the person – with injury and ensure a positive outcome for victims of violent crime – with injury offences

Recorded Crime

29. Violence against the person with injury includes offences such as actual bodily harm, and grievous bodily harm. There has been a continued reduction in this type of offence. A repeat internal audit has been commissioned by the Performance Delivery Group (PDG) to reassure the Force that correct recording procedures of violent crime are still be followed.

30. Monthly offences have fallen sharply over 2015 and are now at a significantly low level during the latest two months.

31. The satisfaction level of victims of violence fell during 2014, and although not at a significantly low level, reached a low point towards the lower bounds of expected levels in early 2015. Recent months have seen a reversal of this, with levels rising towards the mean expected level.

32. The satisfaction improvement delivery plan will consider this area of victim satisfaction and strive to bring about further improvements from the present 78% satisfaction.
To reduce vehicle crime and ensure a positive outcome for victims

Recorded Crime

Theft of Motor Vehicle

Satisfaction

33. The levels of both theft from a motor vehicle and theft of a motor vehicle were at significantly high levels during quarter one.

34. Stolen mopeds fall into the theft of motor vehicle category, and these make up nearly half of all stolen vehicles. There is also a national threat around keyless car thefts, where the thief uses
35. There has been a spike in theft of tools from vans in the past months. This spike in offences is known to be linked to organised criminality. Key suspects have been identified and significant arrests have taken place.

36. Satisfaction levels continue to reduce. The satisfaction improvement delivery plan should see this reducing trend halted over time, and there are very early signs of the reduction plateauing. It is important to consider the time that any changes implemented take before they are reflected in the rolling 12 months satisfaction levels, and that any changes made must be given time to have an effect before any further changes are made.

**Protecting the Vulnerable**

37. Priorities 15 and 16 are reported separately by partnership agencies.

**To reduce the number of repeat missing person reports**

38. The number of missing person reports from the prime locations of children’s homes and the medical facilities have reduced over time.

39. Quarter one saw 22 individuals reported missing a total of 72 occasions, with 59 (82%) being repeat reports for the individual. The overall proportion of repeat reports has fallen over time, and the actual numbers of reports have remained stable for four consecutive periods.

**Implications**

Financial: No financial implications identified  
Legal: No legal implications identified  
Equality Impact Assessment: No diversity implications identified  
Risks and Impact: Reputational risk and heightened fear of crime where levels are currently high.


**List of Appendices**

None.

**Background Papers**

Performance Monitoring Paper B presented at Strategic Assurance Board May 2014.