

Warwickshire Police Authority – 23rd April 2008

General Report of the Chief Constable

Recommendation

The Authority is recommended to note the contents of this report.

ACC Appointment at South Wales

Chief Superintendent Nick Croft has been appointed Assistant Chief Constable with South Wales Police.

Nick, 46, replaces Giles York, who is joining Sussex Police as Deputy Chief Constable.

During his 25-year service with the police, Mr Croft has been Head of Force Operations, Head of Professional Standards and an Acting Assistant Chief Constable for Warwickshire Police. He was also seconded to West Midlands Police, where he was Commander for the Dudley area.

Norfolk Appointment

Temporary Chief Inspector Mike Fawcett, currently responsible for business development in the Force Communications Centre has been appointed as a District Superintendent with Norfolk Constabulary.

Mike, who has served with Warwickshire Police for more than 14 years, will leave the force on June 2 to take up his new appointment.

Mike, who has served as Rugby District Commander and Staff Officer to the Chief Constable, is currently leading the Incident Management Project. He will assume responsibility for the Broadland District of Norfolk Constabulary.

International Policing Reports

Japan – G8 Law Enforcement

Chief Constable Keith Bristow visited Japan earlier this month in his role as advisor to the Japanese chair of the G8 Law Enforcement Projects Sub Group (LEPSG).

While in Tokyo, the Chief Constable took the opportunity to meet with officers who continue to work on Operation Cove, the investigation into the murder of Lindsay Ann Hawker, to thank them for their ongoing commitment to the investigation.

He also met with representatives of the Japanese National Police Agency to discuss ways of strengthening relationships between Japanese and UK law enforcement

officials. Warwickshire has lead force responsibility for Japan on behalf of the Association of Chief Police Officers.

Rwanda – developing local policing and training; tackling violence

Following a meeting with the Rwandan ambassador in London, Deputy Chief Constable Andy Parker visited Rwanda earlier this month, in his national lead role to develop policing relationships with the African country.

The development of district policing and police training, together with ways to tackle domestic abuse were discussed. DCC Parker visited a number of district police stations as well as meeting the British ambassador to Rwanda, Mr Nicholas Cannon, at the embassy in Kigali to discuss how the force can assist a new unit set up to locate and bring to justice those people responsible for planning and organising the genocide in 1994.

Two other members of the force, Superintendent Chis Lewis and Sgt Andy Timms, have visited Rwanda in the past 12 months to assist in the delivery of an inaugural police commanders development programme to senior East African officers.

Future plans include the possibility of a training exchange programme between the two countries. Mr Parker was accompanied by the Chief Constable's Staff Officer, Cathy Ward.

Domestic Abuse Campaign to be launched

Warwickshire Police is working with public sector and charitable organisations to launch a new campaign raising awareness of the harm caused by domestic abuse across the county.

WADA ('Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse') will encourage victims of domestic abuse, and their family and friends, to come forward and seek help from local agencies. It also aims to deter offenders from continuing with their offending and offer them assistance to change their behaviour.

The single branding 'Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse', reflects the involvement of around 25 agencies in the county including county, borough and district councils, Victim Support and three local Refuges who are all working together to provide the best support possible to victims.

A new county domestic abuse website will act as a complete guide for victims and others to all the services available in the county. Victims will also be encouraged to contact a support helpline.

A marketing campaign including media publicity, posters, beer mats and bus posters has been designed and will be launched in May.

In October 2007 Warwickshire Police was given a 'Good' rating for protecting vulnerable people from harm by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC). Domestic abuse remains a force priority in order to protect people from death, injury and distress.

Performance News

Force performance during 2007/08 to reduce crime and tackle the most serious harms facing communities in the county has been the subject of widespread publicity in early April.

Crime figures for twelve months ending March 31 2008 were reported to a special meeting of the Police Authority earlier this month. The Chief Constable reported 'outstanding' performance by all members of the force, including the fact that there had been 5,275 fewer victims of crime in Warwickshire, and 110 fewer victims of serious violence.

A series of media releases were issued on behalf of the force and Authority promoting the end of year statistics, highlighting the massive reduction in victims of crime and 12 per cent overall reduction in recorded crime. (These are available to view at onlinenews.Warwickshire.police.uk)

The media releases were supported by interviews from Philip Blundell, Police Authority Chair, Chief Constable Keith Bristow and Deputy Chief Constable Andy Parker.

Media releases also focussed on an increase in public confidence figures; the issue of 45 asset confiscation orders against criminals for a total value of £703,000 the arrest and charge of ten of the most prolific drug suppliers in the county. Further releases outlined the force's priorities for 2008/09, including our commitment to tackle serious violence and organised crime.

Performance was mentioned in all local newspapers and by local radio stations, including BBC Coventry & Warwickshire, Touch FM and Oak FM (formerly Fosseway).

Internal developments to capture and communicate more good news, both operational and corporate, are ongoing.

Safer Neighbourhood Awareness Campaign

In March, Warwickshire Police took full advantage of a national campaign to raise awareness of local policing teams, announced by the Home Office in late February.

The campaign, entitled "A name in Every Neighbourhood - Keeping the Promise", ran throughout England and Wales between March 17 and 29 and focussed on accessibility of Safer Neighbourhood teams and the opportunities for members of the public to influence their neighbourhood agenda and raise concerns.

Despite the short notice, the force utilised Home Office funding to design and place full page advertisements in local weekly and daily newspapers.

Five borough or district versions were produced, explaining how Safer Neighbourhood teams operate. The advertisements included a 'cut out and keep' list with details of all team members, together with direct e-mail and, for the first time, direct telephone numbers.

In addition to these advertisements, the force organised free media publicity and plans to reproduce the advertisements in poster format, for display in public buildings.

The advertisements will also appear on the Safer Neighbourhoods website, www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk.

The force has also secured £25,000 of Home Office funding to further improve the Safer Neighbourhoods website and development work is currently ongoing.

Performance

See chart attached.

KEITH BRISTOW
Chief Constable

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

FORCE		End of March 2008				Year End 2007-08			
		Target		Current Performance		Target		Current Performance	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Death/ Injury	Serious Violent Crime Reduction	-10%	330	1.4%	372	-10%	3733	-2.5%	4043
	All Violent Crime Sanction Detection Rate	50%	377	49.7%	374	50%	4146	47.7%	3956
	Domestic Abuse Arrests as a Percentage of Incidents	25%	60	29.6%	71	25%	1747	28.6%	2000
	Force Road Related Death and Serious Injury (Calendar Year December 2007)	-28%	41	-44.5%	32	-28%	512	-43.9%	399
Loss	Domestic Burglary Crime Reduction	-10%	196	-5.5%	206	-10%	2560	-16.6%	2373
	Domestic Burglary Crime Sanction Detection Rate	18%	37	6.8%	14	18%	427	13.9%	329
	Vehicle Crime Reduction	-8%	543	-28.6%	421	-8%	7037	-24.3%	5790
	Vehicle Crime Sanction Detection Rate	13%	55	9.7%	41	13%	753	10.6%	616
Fear/ Distress	Criminal Damage Reduction	-5%	834	-8.2%	806	-5%	9753	-10.1%	9234
	Criminal Damage Sanction Detection Rate	15%	121	11.8%	95	15%	1385	14.7%	1353
All Harms	Identify and charge 10 of the most prolific Drug Suppliers (Heroin, Crack, Cocaine)					10		10	
	All Crime Sanction Detection Rate	25%	857	24.9%	852	25%	9993	25.7%	10280

		Target		February		MSF Average		FORCE
								YTD
Community Confidence	Ease of Contact			90.3%		91.0%		89.9%
	Actions	2% above		79.6%		77.6%		79.3%
	Follow Up	MSF		65.0%		63.2%		62.9%
	Treatment	average		93.7%		91.0%		92.3%
	Whole Experience			80.7%		81.1%		81.6%
	Public confidence in local policing	Remain above MSF average		data not available		50.1%		50.2%