

Warwickshire Police Authority
Warwickshire Police

How we protected people from harm

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Annual Report 2007/08

During the year we worked with our communities and partners to reduce harm, which resulted in:

105 fewer victims of serious violence
471 fewer victims of burglary
1,859 fewer victims of car crime
1,032 fewer victims of criminal damage
5,281 more people protected from harm

During the year we also:

Invested in protecting vulnerable people
Solved 7 murders
Arrested 10 of the county's most prolific drug dealers
Solved 329 burglaries
Solved 616 car crimes
Solved 3,956 violent crimes

Availability of this Report

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Protecting our communities together

“**P**roviding the best possible protection for our communities is the reason we all come to work.”

KEITH BRISTOW (2007). **A new police service for Warwickshire. Chief Constables Report - 150 Forward.** (Page 8).
Website: https://admin.warwickshire.police.uk/Website/PAWebsite/committee_papers/PAAgenda23July07/PA230707-150Forward.pdf/PA230707-150Forward.pdf



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Part One:
Foreword

“We will be honest about how we are using our resources to deliver the best protection possible. We will invest in the right local partnerships and continue to contribute to regional and national policing, when protection is best delivered at those levels.”

KEITH BRISTOW (2007). [A new police service for Warwickshire. Chief Constables Report - 150 Forward.](https://admin.warwickshire.police.uk/Website/PAWebsite/committee_papers/PAAgenda23July07/PA230707-150Forward.pdf/PA230707-150Forward.pdf) (Page 2).
Website: https://admin.warwickshire.police.uk/Website/PAWebsite/committee_papers/PAAgenda23July07/PA230707-150Forward.pdf/PA230707-150Forward.pdf

Part One:

Joint foreword

Carl Baldacchino to produce

Issues to be covered:

1. Protect from harm
2. Not just about PCSO's and PC's - visibility only form one part of our overall approach
3. Targeting people the people that cause the most harm
4. Effective protection reflects the continuum of harm and will intervene at the most appropriate juncture, whether that be local, regional, national or international - visible and invisible
5. Deliver more protection than we did last year

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

““Where we can prevent harm, we will. Where we cannot, we will work hard to minimise its impact.

Protection from harm means protecting communities from death, injury, loss and distress. We will focus our effort on combating the most serious harms and threats that our communities face.”

KEITH BRISTOW (2007). [A new police service for Warwickshire. Chief Constables Report - 150 Forward.](https://admin.warwickshire.police.uk/Website/PAWebsite/committee_papers/PAAgenda23July07/PA230707-150Forward.pdf/PA230707-150Forward.pdf) (Page 2).
Website: https://admin.warwickshire.police.uk/Website/PAWebsite/committee_papers/PAAgenda23July07/PA230707-150Forward.pdf/PA230707-150Forward.pdf

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

What did we achieve?

Policing priorities 2007/08

Death/Injury	Target	Out-Turn	
Serious Violent Crime	-10%	-2.5%	●
All Violent Crime Detection Rate	50%	47.7%	●
Domestic Abuse Arrests as a percentage of incidents	25%	28.6%	●
Road Related Death and Serious Injury	-28%	-43.9%	●

Loss	Target	Out-Turn	
Domestic Burglary	-10%	-16.6%	●
Domestic Burglary Detection Rate	18%	13.9%	●
Vehicle Crime	-8%	-24.3%	●
Vehicle Crime Detection Rate	13%	10.6%	●

Fear/Distress	Target	Out-Turn	
Criminal Damage Reduction	-5%	-10.1%	●
Criminal Damage Detection Rate	15%	14.7%	●

Managing harm, reducing risk

What did we achieve?

Policing priorities 2007/08 (Continued)

All Harms	Target	Out-Turn	
Identify and Charge 10 of the most prolific Drug Suppliers	10	10	●
All Crime Detection Rate	25%	25.7%	●

Community Confidence	Target	Out-Turn	
Ease of Contact	2% above MSF average	89.9%	●
Actions		79.3%	●
Follow Up		62.9%	●
Treatment		92.3%	●
Whole experience		81.6%	●
Public Confidence in local policing	Be above MSF average	50.2%	●

Key:
MSF: Most Similar Forces

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Authority Assessment of Force Performance

The Force was presented with a number of significant operational challenges during this year including a major investigation into the warehouse fire in South Warwickshire in which four fire fighters lost their lives and a large-scale murder enquiry into the shooting of Gerry Tobin on the M40 motorway. These events inevitably led to the Force's resources being diverted and, at times, stretched, but it is a tribute to the organisation and commitment of our police that despite these very large and costly investigations, the Force made considerable progress in its performance.

The Authority set priorities and challenging targets for the year and the Force achieved most of them in full or in part. Reductions in road-related deaths and serious injuries, domestic burglary, vehicle crime and criminal damage will be welcomed by Warwickshire residents. The Force also met a ground-breaking target of identifying and charging ten of the most prolific drug suppliers in the County. These achievements, together with a reorganisation of police communications led to a deserved improvement in public confidence, which is now at a level above the average for most similar forces.

From next year, there will be new arrangements for measuring performance which will focus more closely on public confidence, priority neighbourhoods and targeting the people who cause the most harm in our neighbourhoods. We are confident that the Force is well placed to meet the new requirements and will continue to make progress.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Introduction

March 2008 saw us finish our first full year of operation under our vision: “Protecting our communities together”. This approach to policing recognises our commitment to address those local, regional, national or international issues that impact upon the quality of life experienced by people in their communities. In delivering this vision we are committed to protecting people from harm, by which we mean:

- Reducing the number of people killed on our roads or by crime
- Reducing crimes of violence and road injuries
- Protecting people from loss, such as having their possessions stolen
- Protecting against distress: giving individuals and communities confidence to go about their lives without fear

We believe that by focussing on the most serious and prevalent harms we will maximise our ability to protect the people who live in, work in, visit and travel through our county. In adopting this new approach we have ensured that everyone who works for us understands their role in managing the risk of harm and delivering the appropriate protection - that's why we come to work.

In doing the right thing for Warwickshire we take every opportunity to reduce the occurrence and impact of those harms, which significantly affect the quality of people's lives, wherever they occur. We will not strive to meet targets solely for achievements sake unless they help us to deliver the protection that our communities need.

Over the next 22 pages we illustrate how we have protected communities from harm and provide an overview of the type of challenges that our people face.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

North Warwickshire Borough

Death and Injury

Man charged following vicious attack

An unprovoked attack at Corley Cricket Club left the victim seriously injured as a result of being repeatedly punched in the face. Despite the offender having left the scene and witnesses not being forthcoming the tenacity of the investigating officer eventually resulted in the offender being traced and in the face of the overwhelming evidence presented the offender was subsequently charged.

Man investigated over pornographic images

In response to information received from the Child Exploitation On-line Protection Agency detectives based in Atherstone arrested a man from the Hartshill area and following a detailed forensic investigation of his computer he was found to possess a number of paedophile pornographic images.

Loss

Four arrested following lorry heist - driver and load later reunited

A lorry driver who briefly stopped at Corley Services was kidnapped and his load of Sony flat screen televisions hijacked. The driver was later found, bound, in a lay by on the A14 and following diligent enquiries we recovered the entire load of televisions and a pallet of gin stolen from a Tesco store.

Crime doesn't pay

Following the successful prosecution of a person convicted of receiving stolen high value vehicles and selling their parts on Ebay, we successfully seized assets valued at £8,900.

Managing harm, reducing risk

North Warwickshire Borough

Dedicated unit set up to reduce vehicle crime

In response to an increase in vehicle crime we established a dedicated auto crime unit with the goal of reducing the number of crimes being recorded and increasing the number that are detected. Consisting of a Sergeant and two Constable's this unit adopted a number of strategies, including the local media, crime prevention, proactive operations and intelligence to tackle this problem.

Officers address local priorities

In response to community concerns we targeted the vehicle crime that was taking place in the South and West of Coleshill. In addressing this local priority we used a range of tactics including robustly targeting known offenders and ensuring that bail conditions were tightly managed.

Cross border offenders charged with burglaries

Following an operation, focusing on cross-border offenders who targeted licensed premises we charged two people with committing numerous burglaries.

Fear/Distress

Licensees fined for selling alcohol to minors

Following complaints of alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour we carried out a test purchase operation across the Dordon and Polesworth areas in which two 16 year old girls attempted to buy alcohol from local off-licenses. The girls were served in five of the eight premises visited. We immediately served the sellers with £80 on the spot penalties and they were reported to the local Licensing Officer. As a direct result of this operation the number of anti-social behaviour incidents within the community has fallen.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

North Warwickshire Borough

Operation targets localised anti-social behaviour

We responded to reports of localised anti-social behaviour centred on a sheltered accommodation complex for the elderly in the Dordon area. By increasing the number of patrols, challenging young people in the vicinity and using Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Anti Social Behaviour Orders to limit the opportunities of known offenders, we successfully deterred large groups of young people from making a disturbance.

All Harms

Tenants evicted following drugs bust

Following their conviction for supplying drugs two Atherstone residents were evicted from their home by their landlord. The evidence collated as part of this operation removed two dealers from the drugs trade and interrupted the local supply of drugs.

95 made redundant following the closure of local factories

We seized 95 cannabis plants and various sophisticated lighting/heating and hydroponic systems following a number of operations aimed at removing cannabis from the streets of Atherstone. Two offenders were cautioned, with two others being charged to before appear before a court.

Off-licences targeted as we look to protect young people from the dangers of alcohol

Working with the Council and Trading Standards Officers we again targeted alcohol sales to young people. Of the eight off-licences visited staff sold alcohol to the underage volunteer on three occasions, which resulted in them receiving an on-the-spot fixed penalty fine. More encouraging when the volunteer tried to purchase alcohol from previously inspected premises, no sales were made, underlying the earlier operations success.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough

Death and Injury

Man convicted of 'Wake' stabbing

Following an extensive investigation into the death of a man involved in a fight at the Bull Public House in Exhall, which involved locating and securing the offender's return from Bulgaria, a man was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. The victim died from a single stab wound to the chest, despite the vain attempts of the first officers to arrive at the scene to save his life. Even though they faced a large and angry crowd these officers also recovered weapons involved in the incident and preserved the scene.

Time gentlemen, please

In conjunction with detectives based in Coventry we targeted the people we believed were responsible for four armed robberies at local public houses. This enquiry resulted in four violent offenders being arrested. As a result of this operation no similar armed robberies have occurred.

Officers support family following son's tragic death

Following the tragic drowning of a local youngster, whilst playing/fishing at Barpool balancing lake, our family liaison officers provided support to the family.

Man arrested following bomb hoax calls

Following a joint operation with officers in Lancashire we arrested a Nuneaton man for making five hoax calls to the Anti-Terrorist Hotline, in which a Preston man was accused of placing bombs on the London Underground. Our investigation identified that these calls were potentially domestically related as the original informant from Nuneaton appeared to be the named 'suspects' ex son-in-law.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough

Loss

Caught in the act, banged to rights

We successfully targeted a prolific burglar who was arrested along with another offender whilst committing a burglary. Following a successful prosecution the main offender was sentenced to two years and nine months, however the second suspect failed to turn up at Court and a warrant was issued for his immediate arrest.

Offenders charged following armed robbery

Working in co-operation with officers from West Midlands Police we traced and arrested, at 2 properties in Coventry, the people suspected of committing an armed robbery at Keresley End post office. Following a meticulous search by Scenes of Crimes Officers evidence including a quantity of money was recovered. Both offenders were charged with robbery and firearms offences.

Operation targets vehicle crime

A night time operation successfully reduced vehicle crime in hotspot locations across Nuneaton, Bedworth and Bulkington and increased the number of these crimes that were detected.

Prolific burglar receives maximum sentence

A twenty-nine year old man from Nuneaton who we had described as a prolific burglar was sentenced to three years imprisonment following a spate of burglaries across Nuneaton and Bedworth. As a result of this being the offender's third conviction for this offence he received the maximum permissible sentence.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough

Fear/Distress

Prompt police action results in a reduction in community tension

A man was arrested and subsequently remanded in prison and 3 samurai swords recovered as a result of prompt action by local officers to a disturbance in the Abbey area of Nuneaton. In response to the nature of this incident - the use of a sword to threaten members of the local Asian community - a high profile public re-assurance operation was mounted. This operation helped ensure that normality resumed in a community that had previously experienced racial tension.

New team tackles anti-social behaviour

We launched a joint initiative with the county's Fire Service and Community Education team, which involved them attending every incident where a fire had been reported to fire control, where a corresponding report of 'rowdy' and 'nuisance' behaviour had been received by our control. In addition to dealing with the fire, the team attempted to build relationships with local young people, seize alcohol and divert them away from this behaviour. PCSO's used 'head cams' to gather evidence and we sent letters to parents informing them that their child had been present at the scene of a small fire and outlining the potential dangers they faced.

All Harms

Protecting vulnerable people from domestic abuse

As part of a campaign aimed at preventing domestic abuse and providing reassurance to victims of previously reported high-risk abuse, we deployed a dedicated, marked vehicle, which attended every reported domestic incident. To assist the gathering of accurate evidence one of the attending officers wore a 'head cam'.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough

Justice Centre houses prison inmates as part of Government plan

We participated in the Government's scheme aimed at relieving the pressure being experienced by HM Prison Service by temporarily housing sentenced prisoners in the cell block within the Justice Centre at Nuneaton.

Operation seeks to prevent public disorder

We deployed uniformed officers and two drugs dogs in Nuneaton town centre to prevent and detect public disorder associated with the night time economy. As part of this initiative we visited 15 licensed premises to ensure they were complying with current legislation and it resulted in 5 people being arrested for public order offences.

Investigation results in the imprisonment of organised gang offender

Following investigations into organised crime groups engaged in the supply of controlled drugs and money laundering across the county we have arrested and charged suspects with a variety of offences. One such suspect was initially charged with disqualified driving offences, sentenced to nine months imprisonment and subsequently charged with deception and money laundering.

Community Confidence

Police reassure local community during election campaign

In response to the decision to call a bi-election in the racially diverse ward of Abbey during the holy month of Ramadan, we introduced a patrol strategy and supporting plan for the duration of the election. This strategy recognised the history of racial tension in the community and the potential impact of the British National Party fielding a candidate in the election and ensured that community harmony was maintained.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Rugby Borough

Death and Injury

Man convicted of 2005 murder

Following extensive investigations into the murder of a Polish national in a house in Rugby the man suspected of committing the murder was eventually located in his native Poland. As a result of extensive international cooperation the offender was extradited to the UK where he pleaded guilty to murder.

Management of high-risk sex offender protects young woman from harm

Under the prison release notification scheme we became aware of the imminent release of an offender who posed a serious threat to a woman living in Rugby. In order to reduce and manage the risk she was relocated. Upon his release the offender was placed in a secure hostel in the West Country, thereby reducing the identified risk.

Family members arrested following kidnap ordeal

Having found an Asian man on the M69 further enquiries identified that he, along with a second man had been taken by the family of an Asian woman who had run away with her boyfriend. Officers eventually found the second man, who had sustained a number of injuries and located the daughter and her boyfriend safe and well. Three members of the family were subsequently arrested in connection with this incident.

Special Constables protect road users from harm

A Special Constabulary operation in which roadside vehicle checks were carried out to identify drivers who were unfit to drive through drink and/or drugs as well as offering road safety advice resulted in over fifty cars being stopped, a number of breath tests being carried out and vehicle defect rectification forms issued.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Rugby Borough

Man charged with manslaughter following death of assault victim

Detectives, supported by local officers arrested a local man for manslaughter following an investigation into the death of a Rugby man who died as a result of being assaulted.

Woman charged with partner's murder

Following the investigation into the murder of a local man killed by a single stab wound, the victim's partner was charged with his murder.

Man convicted of wounding

We successfully charged a known serious criminal following an investigation into a serious wounding and blackmail. This offender was subsequently found guilty and sentenced to 3 years in prison.

Loss

Jail sentence for prolific offender

Officers from Rugby and Warwick jointly dealt with a local prolific offender arrested for a robbery in which the shopkeeper was attacked. Despite only recently being released from prison he was also suspected of committing a number of burglaries in Rugby. He has subsequently been sentenced to 4 years in prison.

Automatic Number Plate Recognition-based operation targets criminals

In response to a number of thefts and burglaries along the arterial routes between Coventry and Rugby, local officers supported by our ANPR team carried out an operation, which resulted in 77 vehicles being stopped, 14 people being arrested and 2 vehicles seized.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Rugby Borough

Prolific Offenders taken out of circulation

A local man who had been released on licence after being imprisoned for burglary was arrested on suspicion of burglary within a week of his release after a neighbour heard glass smashing and alerted builders working locally who chased and detained the man until officers arrived.

Three men arrested following armed robbery

Officers arrested three men in connection with an armed robbery at Corals Bookmakers, Bilton, in which staff were threatened with weapons. Following initial enquiries a police dog and handler recovered a bolt action shot gun and clothing including a balaclava from a hedge. The suspects were tracked and arrested after jumping from a window and attempting to flee into a neighbour's garden.

House-to-house enquiries results in series of arrests

Following a series of burglaries in the Hilmorton area, PCSO's conducted house-to-house enquiries uncovering information that enabled detectives to arrest a number of people and recover stolen property.

Fear/Distress

Officers are stopping young people in battle against criminal damage

In response to an increase in criminal damage in the Bilton area we implemented a local patrol strategy. This approach resulted in a substantial number of stop checks being conducted and letters being sent to the parents of children under the age of eighteen. We also issued warnings to young people involved in anti-social behaviour and arrested three people for assault and a fourth for possessing a four-inch lock knife.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Rugby Borough

Measures taken to reduce alcohol related violence

In looking to reduce the level of alcohol-related violence and disorder we implemented a high visibility patrol strategy and carried out an alcohol test purchase operation in conjunction with Trading Standards staff. Of the 8 off-licences visited, staff only sold alcohol to the under-age volunteer on one occasion. Following a meeting with the store's manager their training procedures have been examined and the staff were subjected to an internal investigation.

Community Confidence

Police plans safeguard security at public hearing

We assigned a team of officers to maintain security and the smooth running of the Independent Police Complaints Commission's public hearing into the death of Collete Lynch. This event, which was attended by a large number of people including representatives from the national and local media, passed without incident.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Stratford upon Avon District

Death and Injury

Mother and baby tragically drown

Following the tragic drowning of a mother and baby at a business-based swimming pool a professional response ensured that the scene was preserved and an appropriately sensitive investigation undertaken.

Working in partnership to protect children and young people from harm

Upon receiving information from the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency (CEOP) officers investigated a man who was found to possess indecent photographs of two, previously unidentified, children under the age of four. Having interviewed this man our officers identified a possible location for the children. In conjunction with CEOP and officers from North Wales Police it was confirmed that these children had recently been taken into care. As a result of our investigation the parents, who were already being prosecuted for minor neglect offences are now, along with the original offender, being investigated for serious abuse offences.

Four fire fighters tragically die fighting massive warehouse fire

Following the major warehouse fire at Atherstone on Stour in which 4 fire fighters tragically lost their lives, we are leading a joint investigation into the incident with the Health and Safety Executive. As part of this investigation we have undertaken an extensive forensic examination of the scene, which included deconstructing the remains of the warehouse. This investigation is on-going.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Stratford upon Avon District

Police target top ten offenders

In response to tackling violent crime we focussed on managing the top 10 offenders responsible for serious violence, pro-actively managed three town centre licensed premises subject to an improvement action plans and initiated targeted high visibility patrols in hot spot locations.

Loss

Property returned to victims of crime

Following an extensive investigation four men were charged with conspiracy to steal and conspiracy to handle stolen property. We successfully recovered over £30,000 of plant and garden machinery and where possible returned it to its owners.

Putting the brakes on vehicle crime

In response to a spate of vehicle thefts where we believed specific vehicles were being targeted, we arrested 3 suspects, one of whom was subsequently sentenced to 20 months in prison. Based on our intelligence we initiated a series of high visibility patrols and worked closing with the local 'Anti Social Behaviour Order' officer and housing officials. Following the arrests made this pattern of offending stopped.

Seven go to prison for crime spree

As a result of a joint operation conducted with West Midlands, West Mercia and Staffordshire Police, 7 people were arrested for conspiracy to commit burglary and armed cash in transit robbery. To date we have detected over 12 domestic burglaries along with a number of armed robberies that took place outside the county. All 7 were remanded in custody, which resulted in a corresponding reduction in the number of burglaries.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Stratford upon Avon District

On-going operation successfully targeting travelling criminals

In response to the considerable harm being caused by travelling criminals we implemented a two-pronged response, which utilised a combination of enforcement and prevention tactics, including ANPR, our Taskforce and local detectives. This team operated across district/borough boundaries responding to emerging crime trends. As a result of this approach we dramatically reduced the burglary rate across the district and arrested a number of travelling criminals including 2 offenders 10 minutes after committing an offence in the Langley area.

Fear/Distress

Offender admits damaging property

As a result of experiencing high levels of criminal damage the Wellesbourne Safer Neighbourhood team identified a suspect who subsequently admitted 40 offences. During the investigation he also admitted being responsible for 70 similar offences in the Lapworth area.

All Harms

Deal or no deal? Local drug dealer admits offences

Having identified and observed a person responsible for supplying the majority of heroin in Stratford we mounted an enforcement operation, which resulted in him being arrested in possession of a substantial quantity of heroin and crack cocaine. As well as admitting possession with intent to supply, he also asked for a similar offence to be taken into consideration in the West Midlands.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Stratford upon Avon District

Investigation recovers significant drugs haul

As part of an investigation into the distribution of cocaine across Warwickshire we executed a search warrant at industrial premises in the Mappleborough Green area which resulted in the recovery of large quantities of a substance we believed to be cocaine, a significant amount of herbal cannabis, 2 cocaine presses along with other items used to package and supply controlled drugs, 4 stolen vehicles, a valuable racing bicycle, 20 cases of whiskey and numerous other items that were believed to either be stolen or used to commit crime. The landlord of these premises was arrested, interviewed and bailed pending further enquiries.

Community Confidence

Proactive policing targeted 'Trick or Treaters' and the safe use of fireworks

We launched an operation, which targeted anti-social behaviour around Bonfire night and Halloween, which initially involved PCSO's carrying out prevention advice, giving out leaflets about trick or treating and the safe use of fireworks and delivering presentations at Secondary Schools. This was followed by the enforcement phase, which included initiating high visibility patrols, targeting hot spot locations and undertaking test purchase operations with our colleagues in Trading Standards.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Warwick District

Death and Injury

7 arrested and charged following the murder of Hells Angel on M40

Following an extensive operation into the murder of a Hells Angel on the M40 motorway we have arrested seven people in connection with his death. These suspects have been charged with murder and firearms offences and all 7 were remanded in custody. One defendant has subsequently pleaded guilty to the charge of murder. The trial continues.

Man charged with murder of local woman

Having received information that raised concerns about the welfare of a local woman we used force to enter her flat and found the deceased in her bed. The suspect was located and subsequently arrested in Blackpool. Upon his return to Warwickshire he was charged with her murder and remanded in custody.

Man charged with attempted murder

We charged a man with attempted murder in connection with a person being thrown down a flight of stairs at the Robins Well Public House in Leamington.

Loss

Man assaulted in home - assailant remanded in custody

Following an aggravated burglary at Featherstone Court Leamington Spa in which a 92-year-old man was assaulted in his home we arrested and charged a man who was subsequently remanded in custody.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Warwick District

You've been framed - Automatic Number Plate Recognition identifies car criminals

We have targeted those offenders responsible for vehicle crimes primarily occurring on pub and hotel car parks on the main routes into Stratford and Warwick. As part of this operation we initiated a series of high visibility patrols, provided crime prevention advice, identified vulnerable vehicles and deployed our ANPR team. Whilst no offences were reported over the duration of this operation an ANPR 'hit' resulted in two offenders from Birmingham being arrested and charged.

Off duty officer arrests shoplifter

Whilst off duty shopping in a local supermarket with his young daughter one of our officers intervened after staff challenged a shoplifter. After becoming violent towards staff and attempting to escape our officer restrained the offender until on duty officers arrived. The offender subsequently admitted 6 burglaries, 20 vehicle crimes and 6 thefts.

Fear/Distress

Applying the brakes to local street racers

We launched an operation across north and south Leamington to combat street racing and speeding. Concentrating on Binswood Avenue, Beauchamp Avenue, Queensway and Sydenham we deployed targeted patrols to tackle street racers and speeding motorists.

Partners crack down on violence and anti-social behaviour

With our partner agencies we targeted offenders responsible for violence, anti-social behaviour and damage and we deployed officers with 'head cams' to deter and detect violent crimes.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Warwick District

Targeting criminal damage, reassuring local people

In conjunction with the council we conducted an operation targeting criminal damage across south Leamington. This operation involved officers patrolling in plain clothes and high visibility uniformed patrols aimed at reassuring local communities.

All Harms

The party's over for local woman

Having gathered intelligence relating to the activities of a local woman who was known to supply various drugs to local people, illegal raves and via meetings of local animal liberation groups, it was forward to our local drugs team to proactively investigate.

Man arrested for wholesale production of cannabis

Based on intelligence that a local man was cultivating large amounts of cannabis in his loft space we executed a search warrant and found and seized a considerable number of cannabis plants and a high tech hydroponics system. A man was subsequently arrested and charged with cannabis production.

Offender pleads guilty following the recovery of illegal drugs

As part of an operation investigating the supply of controlled drugs we arrested an offender and recovered 4kg of cocaine and 1kg of cannabis. We subsequently charged the offender and he was remanded in custody. Having pleaded guilty to the charges faced he is now the subject of a money laundering investigation.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Warwick District

Community Confidence

Police operation initiated to protect Sikh community from harm

As a result of threats being made to members of Leamington's Sikh temple, relating to the marriage of a Sikh woman and a Hindu male at the temple, we launched a high profile operation to protect the community and counter any potential violence and subsequent arson of two vehicles.

Diversion put in place to steer young people away from potential criminality

We carried out an initiative in Leamington aimed at diverting young people away from crime. A number of young people who were perceived as being at risk of criminal and anti-social behaviour were placed on a mechanics introduction course at Brakes Automotive, Coventry. This partnership initiative also provided these young people with social integration and team building skills and information about alcohol, drugs and traffic offences.

Scheme aims to protect drinkers from harm

The Kenilworth based pub watch scheme aims to share information across licensed premises about those people who have been convicted of licensed premises-related violence, drugs and public order offences. Members receive information about all people that have been banned from all participating licensed premises and they meet every 6 months to review the continuing applicability of this information and to decide whether to introduce or lift bans. Although the scheme is still in its infancy it is anticipated that it will significantly reduce the incidents of disorder.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Across the County

Death and Injury

Specialist domestic violence courts to improve service to victims

We have introduced specialist domestic abuse courts across the county so that we can provide a more focussed approach to this problem.

Schemes provide greater protection victims of domestic abuse

In partnership with the county council, housing and community safety a scheme has been introduced where high-risk victims of domestic abuse can be temporarily re-housed. We have also distributed a number of mobile phones across our districts/boroughs so that where victims are assessed as being at risk we can provide them with a mobile phone so that they can summon help if they feel threatened.

Partners share information to reduce the risk and better protect victims/children

Multi Agency Risk Assessments (MARAC) is a police led initiative, which involves all our partner agencies that are involved in the management and decision making associated with high-risk domestic abuse cases. These conferences draw up action plans, which seek to reduce risk and protect children and victims.

Major Incident Unit to enhance the force's capability to deliver protection

We have created a Major Incident Unit (MIU), which will enhance our ability to deal with serious and major incidents. Based at police headquarters, this unit consists of dedicated specialist staff and has enabled us to effectively deal with a number of major incidents.

Part Two:

Managing harm, reducing risk

Across the County

Loss

Encryption enhances security of force data

Recognising the importance of our information and the risk of our laptops being lost or stolen we have installed encryption software on all of our laptops, which will only enable the authorised user to access the machine.

Three convicted of armed robbery following cross border operation

Following an operation to investigate a number of armed robberies across Coventry and Warwickshire, 3 offenders were charged with conspiracy to commit robbery, conspiracy to commit burglary and firearms offences, which included offences committed in Devon and Cornwall and Leicestershire. Having pleaded guilty to these charges they were subsequently sentenced to 13 years, 12 years and 10 years in prison.

Team offers advice to scrap metal thefts

Following a series of scrap metal thefts our crime prevention team visited as many of the victims as possible to provide advice and support as to how they could improve security at industrial premises and construction sites. Publicity of this initiative included coverage on BBC Midlands Today.

All Harms

Operation results in 48 arrests for violence and criminal damage-related offences

We have conducted extensive operations in respect of warrants enforcement, seeking to crackdown on those people who are wanted on warrants for failing to appear at court, breaching community orders and non-payment of fines. We arrested over 100 people who were brought before the courts the following day to face the consequences of not complying with the orders issued by the court.

Managing harm, reducing risk

Across the County

Improvements to Communication Centre enhance the force's ability to deliver protection

We have increased the spatial capacity within our Communications Centre, so that we have sufficient workstations to enable us to increase the number of Call Handlers and potentially relocate our Crime Desk. We have also introduced a new telephony system, which enables calls to be prioritised with 'potential harms' calls being dealt with before 'information type' calls.

System will enable better management of missing persons investigations

We have introduced a new system that enables us to better manage missing persons incidents. Having created a missing persons incident this system records the progress being made and ensures that all of the actions required to underpin the investigation are completed in accordance with our agreed procedure.

New team supports student officers achieve required standard

We have created a centrally managed Assessor Team, responsible for accrediting student officers. This team has quickly identified the issues that we were facing regarding accreditation to such an extent that the appointment of all our student officers is likely to be confirmed.

Community Confidence

Media campaign raises awareness of domestic abuse

We conducted a high profile media campaign to raise the profile of domestic abuse and let people know how they could seek help. It featured a media launch with posters, leaflets and a speech by an ACPO officer.



Part Three:

Designing a new force

““We need to create a working environment that enables our people to deliver protection. In the future, a higher proportion of our people will be actively engaged in delivering the protection that citizens need.”

KEITH BRISTOW (2007). **A new police service for Warwickshire. Chief Constables Report - 150 Forward.** (Page 2).
Website: https://admin.warwickshire.police.uk/Website/PAWebsite/committee_papers/PAAgenda23July07/PA230707-150Forward.pdf/PA230707-150Forward.pdf

Designing a new force

Why did we do it and how did we approach it?

Following the Government's decision not to pursue regional strategic forces, we needed to find a way of achieving the same efficiencies associated with a strategic force whilst remaining a self-contained organisation with local, regional and national obligations.

We created a dedicated team, ably supported by numerous people across the organisation, to define the changes we needed to make. Following extensive discussion and consultation the options for a new force structure began to emerge. This was underpinned by detailed research and analysis, which tested these proposals and began the preparations for introducing these extensive changes. From the outset it was clear that the force's structure would not remain unchanged and that the roles being undertaken by a number of staff and officers would potentially change.

What did we do?

Having identified and tested a number of possible options work began to identify the cost implications of implementing our preferred option. This resulted in the development of a 'blueprint for change', which contained 65 recommendations that were focussed on protecting or communities from harm and mitigating the risks we faced in delivering this protection.

Having been approved by our Business Improvement Board, the 'blueprint' was submitted to the Police Authority for their approval. Our proposals contained some far-reaching proposals, including the merger of our two basic command units into a single Local Policing Directorate and the creation of two further directorates: Protective Services and Resources.

Part Three:

Designing a new force

A fundamental principal of our proposal was to challenge the requirement for certain roles currently undertaken by police officers to continue as such. Where there was clear evidence that post holders did not require police powers to undertake the role, we raised the possibility of 'workforce developing' them and employing appropriately trained police staff. Following receipt of the Police Authority's approval for our proposal work began to introduce the necessary changes.

Our early adoption of the neighbourhood policing meant that much of the core work to reform Local Policing was already in hand and our 33 Safer Neighbourhood Teams were well positioned to adjust to the force restructure. In creating a Resources Directorate we centralised all of the support services that had previously been devolved to our BCU's. This has meant that our core support functions are delivered once, force-wide.

The final phase of saw the Protection Services directorate being restructured and expanded to so mitigate the identified risks. These changes saw us introduce a number of new functions such as our Co-ordination and Tasking Office (CATO), which has increased our flexibility and significantly enhanced our resilience, a uniformed task force to proactively address emerging issues and a modern, well equipped Major Incident Unit (MIU) to enable robust responses to serious events.

What is the outcome?

Staff and officers, not blueprints, delivered the increase in performance and the successful handling of major incidents during this period. However, it was a testament to the dedication and professionalism of our people that this major programme of change was delivered without interrupting daily policing and has resulted in an organisation that better supports its people and allows them to focus on protecting our communities from harm.

