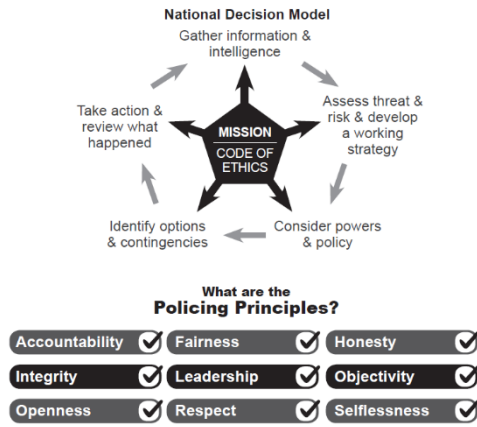




Surrey Police & Crime Panel

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1. Background

- 1.1. This briefing has been created to address Action R4/21 which was generated during the March 2021 Police & Crime Panel. During the course of this meeting the PCC agreed to liaise with Surrey Police to provide the breakdown of the Positive Outcome Rate for crimes against vulnerable people (sexual offences, domestic abuse, child abuse and hate crime) and the Chief Constable’s plans to address these.
- 1.2. This report seeks to provide positive outcome data for the four areas agreed and provide a short summary detailing the plans in place to address those areas.

2. Data

- 2.1. For reference, the below table provides the current solved outcome rates over a rolling year period from the date this report has been published. This includes those recorded crimes that have been finalised with Outcomes 1-8 (excluding 5), Outcome 10 and validated Outcome 22.
- 2.2. Domestic Abuse (DA) has been split across 3 thematic areas including reported incidents of violence with injury, violence without injury and all other non-violent DA related offences.
- 2.3. Data Table – 03 June 2020 – 02 June 2021:

	Total Recorded Offences	Positive Outcome Rate	Positive Outcome %
DA – Violence with Injury	2,396	372	15.5%
DA – Violence without Injury	5,583	643	11.5%
DA – Other	1,778	280	15.7%

DA – Total	9,757	1,295	13.3%
Rape	797	39	4.9%
Serious Sexual Offences	1,759	124	7.0%
Child Abuse	1,404	200	14.2%
Hate Crime	2,301	353	15.3%

3. Force Performance Strategy

3.1. The below summaries provide a brief synopsis of Surrey Police’s strategic plans which seek to drive significant improvement in performance whilst delivering exceptional victim care and support to those most vulnerable. The strategies are underpinned by the Force Vision 2020/25, to ensure that the communities within the County of Surrey are safe and feel safe.

3.2. Domestic Abuse:

In April 2021 Surrey Police launched their Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy. With purpose and intent ‘Control and Coercion’ has been positioned within our Control Strategy alongside Sexual Violence in order to place the prevention of VAWG at the centre of policing in Surrey. Surrey Police will become a police service that is trauma-informed and understands the impact of control and coercion. The Force will engage and build our response with survivors and women with lived experience of VAWG, to deliver a modern, trauma-informed and reflective VAWG strategy in line with the National Vulnerability Action Plan which runs through the core of all aspects of Surrey Police. Whilst the strategy seeks to address all aspects of violence towards women and girls, four priority areas for improvement have been identified:

- Targeting of highest harm DA and sexual perpetrators including the use of perpetrator diversion programmes.
- Review of domestic abuse-related suicide and untimely death prevention
- Improve access, support and engagement with Black and Minoritised survivors of VAWG
- Redesign our approach, understanding, training and court outcomes through a trauma-informed understanding of Controlling and Coercive Behaviour including the impact on children

3.3. Rape And Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO):

The effective investigation and prosecution of rape and serious sexual offences remains one of the most important challenges facing Surrey Police and the criminal justice system. Although long-term improvements have been made in this area, we share public concern over the disparity between the number of cases reported and the number of cases prosecuted. Surrey Police remains committed to advancing our skills, knowledge and understanding of rape and serious sexual offences and those perpetrators who commit them. In April 2021, a RASSO Improvement Plan was published which outlines a number of key areas to be addressed over the next financial year, including:

- Response Review – An ‘end to end’ review to track initial contact points between the police and victim to assess and optimise engagement opportunities.
- RASSO Investigation Structure – Forming part of the Investigation Structure Review (ISR) to assess how

RASSO investigations are allocated and managed across the force to ensure a consistent and high standard level of service is provided to victims.

- RASSO Perpetrator Programme – Targeting the highest risk sexual offence perpetrators who have evaded previous prosecution.
- Rape Improvement Group – Working in partnership with South East Crown Prosecution Service, Surrey Police, Sussex Police and Kent Police with the aim of improving performance by narrowing the disparity between rape reports and criminal justice outcomes.

3.4. Child Abuse:

The effectiveness of child abuse investigations has been a focus of Surrey Police for some time. A significant amount of work, including an investigation review, has been undertaken which is summarised below. The work is aimed at increasing officer and staff awareness to ensure that they consider all avenues available to them to protect children.

- The Investigation Structure Review (ISR) has focused on understanding Safeguarding Investigation Unit (SIU) demand and the process for investigating Child Abuse investigations. Eastern Division have already gone live with the ISR structure. Western and Northern Divisions are going live on 21st June 2021. Focused Child Abuse investigators will mean Detectives can focus on PIP 2 level investigations assisting with increasing outcome rates.
- Child Exploitation and Missing Unit (CEMU) teams have had their terms of reference rewritten and focused to ensure that they are targeted in their approach and engagement with, and protecting victims of child exploitation. Increased engagement will result in increasing confidence of victims throughout the Criminal Justice process
- The “Early Help” pilot has been successful and is being considered for a force wide roll out. Police identify referrals using a trauma informed/ACE informed approach to identify levels of need and early intervention for children who cause the most demand on police; are identified as at emerging risk of exploitation and those identified as experiencing ACE’s.
- Youth Engagement Officers (YEO) – Surrey Police has doubled the number of YEO’s and their work is based on a problem solving approach. The YEO’s actively work with those on the periphery of being exploited to intervene early and prevent escalation. They also deliver regular educational inputs on various topics including cyberbullying, hate crime, county lines, drugs etc.
- As mentioned in the Domestic Abuse section, a trauma informed approach is being delivered to all officers to assist in understanding the impact of trauma on children and young people. This will assist in engagement through the Criminal Justice process as well in assisting in reducing participation in crime.
- Surrey Police have signed up to “Time for Kids” which is a holistic approach to ensuring we all work together to promote each child reaching their full potential. The Force has delivered targeted communications on the impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences on children, so officers understand that children who offend have often suffered trauma, so they can adapt their response accordingly.
- The Force has started to deliver training to all officers and staff to assist in understanding and identifying Neglect including the definition, why is it important to identify, educate officers and staff regarding learning from Serious Case reviews. This is supported by a comprehensive communications plan.
- An application for officer hand held technology (MDT) is being developed to assist frontline response officers to identify and respond to all forms of child abuse. It will assist in identifying the signs, actions to take and offences or disruptions to consider.
- The Force is working with Children’s Services to develop training for all officers on how to talk to children. This is a result of some feedback from the survey the “User Voice and Participation team” carried out and after reviewing some Body Worn Video of officers engaging with children. This is aimed to support disclosures and for children to feel safe and empowered to talk to police.
- “No wrong door” - No Wrong Door model is being embedded in Surrey, this will start at Cheyney Walk Children’s Home in East Surrey. This model provides an integrated service to try and intervene early where concerns are identified to prevent children from becoming ‘Looked After’ children. Outreach and crisis support will be provided to enable children to remain in their family home or to prevent placement breakdown, children will be accommodated at Cheyney Walk if needed, for a short time for intensive work in the form of a life coach (psychologist or family therapist), communication worker (speech and

language therapist). A CEMU Children's Home SPOC will support this and offer dedicated support to the home and the children to ensure a multi-agency intelligence-based approach. The impact being a reduction in high risk behaviour, a reduction in crime, missing episodes and improved outcomes for children.

3.5. Hate Crime:

Hate Crime in Surrey has seen an increase year on year and this follows the national trend. There is improved awareness across the Force in regards to Hate Crime and the expected standards required from officers when investigating offences. A new policy has built in more supervision of Hate Crime offences to identify the best outcome for victims and support for them. Key areas for the next year to focus on are:

- In May 2021 an independent audit of how Surrey Police investigate Hate Crime was carried out by True Vision (NPCC funded project). The findings of this will be used as the base for a new Hate Crime strategy for the force.
- An independent scrutiny panel has been established to help the Force understand how the communities perceive the Force position in supporting victims of Hate Crime and provide feedback on the cases they review. This panel will be developed wider to ensure all strands of Hate Crime are represented.
- The appointment of an officer to act as a Force Advisor on Hate Crime will be in post this year.
- Closer working with the CPS will be developed to ensure each case that should go to the CPS is reviewed by them and early investigative advice is sought. This will build on the improvement already being made in regards to successful prosecutions and establish a Hate Crime check list for each case.
- The Hate Crime working group is being re-established and will report into the regional Hate Crime working group, ensuring the force is consistent with good practice across the region.
- There will be closer working with Counter Terrorism Policing South East (CTPSE) Prevent to ensure that the Force is making referrals for repeat offenders of Hate Crime and areas of repeat offending.

T/DCI Adam Tatton
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02 June 2021

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