

9. CRIME FIGURES OVERVIEW

REPORT OF: HEAD OF CORPORATE RESOURCES
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Wards Affected: ALL
Key Decision: No
Report to: Scrutiny Committee for Community, Housing and Planning
12 September 2017

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Members with an overview of the rolling crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) figures for May, the rolling quarter (March, April and May) and the rolling 12 months (June to May) compared to the previous year for Mid Sussex. For the Committee to use this information to consider whether further information from Sussex Police is required about the changes to the Local Policing Model and the potential for that to impact on crime figures for Mid Sussex in the future.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- i) **Consider the report and whether to invite Sussex Police to provide additional information on the new Local Policing Model.**

Background

3. IQuanta is a web-based service provided to operational staff in police forces, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and HMIC. IQuanta is provisional crime data before it is finalised and published as National Statistics. IQuanta data comes from Police data.
4. IQuanta data is used to form part of the annual Strategic Intelligence Assessment, which is a statutory duty of the Mid Sussex Partnership.
5. Members have asked for this report to come forward, to consider whether crime figures are changing for Mid Sussex and if this is an effect of changes to the policing model.

Overview of Crime Performance

6. Table 1, in Appendix 1, provides an overview of total notifiable offences reported to Sussex Police for May, the rolling quarter (March, April and May) and the rolling 12 months (June to May) compared to the previous year and indicates whether there has been an increase or decrease in crime. There is also a breakdown of certain crimes types for the same periods.
7. It can be seen from table1, in Appendix 1, that there has been a 16.8% increase in total notifiable offences in the rolling 12 months compared to the previous 12 months; this equates to an increase of 878 crimes. Almost half of this increase (+410 crimes) is related to violence against the person.
8. Table 2, in Appendix 1, provides an overview of anti-social behaviour reported to Sussex Police for May, the rolling quarter (March, April and May) and the rolling 12 months (June to May) compared to the previous year and indicates whether there has

been an increase or decrease in crime. There is also a breakdown of certain crimes types for the same periods.

9. It can be seen from table 2, in Appendix 1, that there has been an 8.4% decrease in total reported anti-social behaviour in the rolling 12 months compared to the previous 12 months, this equated to 214 crimes.
10. In the rolling 12 months there has been an increase in reported personal anti-social behaviour of 31% compared to the previous 12 months, though it's important to note this actually equates to an increase of 53 reports. Personal is defined as ASB incidents that the caller, call-handler or anyone else perceives as either deliberately targeted at an individual or group or having an impact on an individual or group rather than the community at large.
11. Both nuisance and environmental anti-social behaviour have both seen a decrease in the rolling 12 months compared to the previous 12 months. With nuisance ASB has decreased by 4.8% or -100 reports and environmental ASB decreasing by 54.8% or -167 reports.
12. Nuisance captures those incidents where an act, condition, thing or person causes trouble, annoyance, inconvenience, offence or suffering to the local community in general rather than to individual victims. It includes incidents where behaviour goes beyond the conventional bounds of acceptability and interferes with public interests including health, safety and quality of life. Environmental deals with the interface between people and places. It includes incidents where individuals and groups have an impact on their surroundings including natural, built and social environments.

Crime Figures and Context

13. Crime is rising in Mid Sussex, compared to the last 12 months. This increase has affected Mid Sussex's crime rate per 1,000 population, with Horsham challenging Mid Sussex for safest District or Borough in West Sussex. Mid Sussex and Chichester end the financial year with the joint biggest increases in total notifiable offences across West Sussex. Two noticeable factors in the increase in total notifiable offences that need to be considered alongside the increase are the confidence in reporting historical crime and the identified increase in violent crime.
14. Some notable offences contributing to this rise are violence against the person. Violence against the person covers a large number of offences. Within violence against the person there are two offences to note; public place violence against the person and domestic abuse crimes. Public place violence against the person is the biggest factor in the overall increase. Mid Sussex shows the biggest increase compared to the other Districts and Boroughs in West Sussex.
15. Violent crime has continued to rise across Sussex. One of the reasons for these increases is likely to include changes in recording practices for violent offences and improved confidence in victims reporting these crimes to the police, particularly domestic violence offences. Mid Sussex has seen the biggest increase in violence against the person compared to the other Districts and Boroughs in West Sussex.
16. While there has been a decrease in total, environmental and nuisance ASB; there has been an increase in nuisance ASB; it's also important to note there has been an increase in ASB reporting to MSDC as well, with neighbour disputes remaining the biggest reason. Low level mental health has been a significant factor in both victim and perpetrator vulnerability.

Financial Implications

17. This report has no financial implications.

Risk Management Implications

18. This report has not risk management implications in itself.

Equality and Customer Service Implications

19. None.

Background Papers

20. Strategic Intelligence Assessment 2016-17.