

Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Overview and Scrutiny Committee September 2013 Briefing Note: All Crime

1. Background

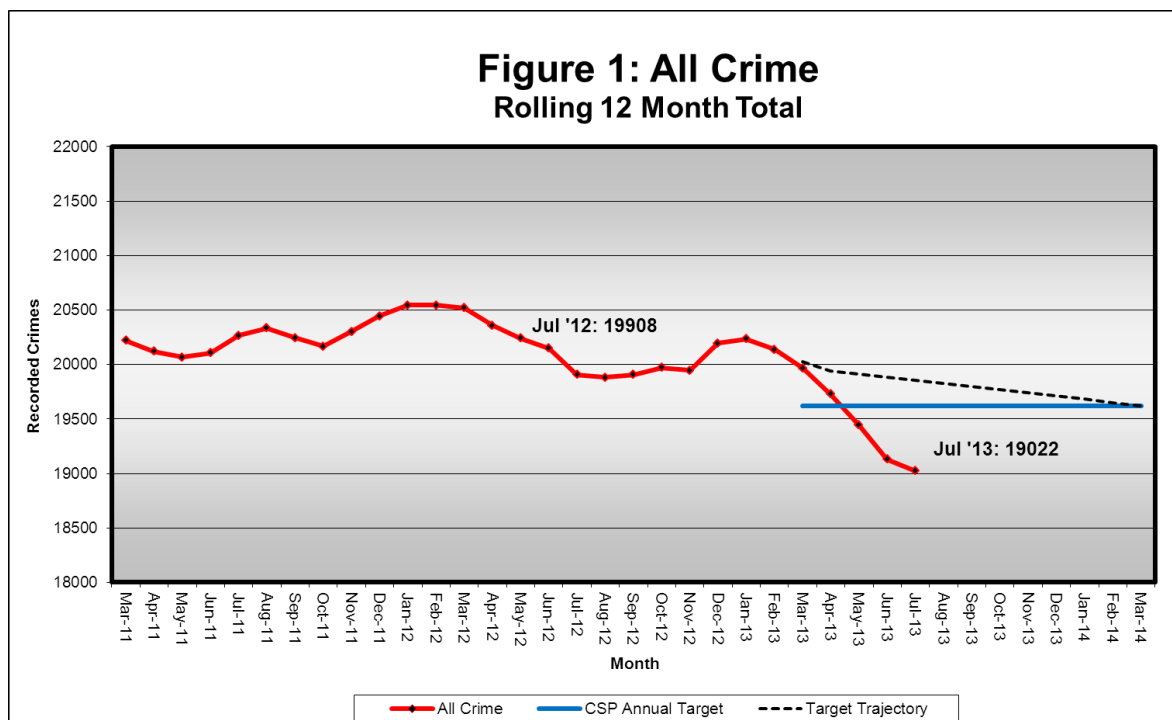
1.1 All Crime has notably reduced in Northampton during 2013-14 to date. This is due to marked reduction in high volume crime types and a change in Home Office recording practices. Similar reductions have been observed across the whole force area.

2. Purpose

2.1 To provide the Committee with a general overview of the All Crime reduction in Northampton.

3. Current Situation

3.1 Performance



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- 3.1.1 The data used within this briefing note is accurate as of August 1st 2013 and includes crime data up to 31st July 2013.
- 3.1.2 The figure above shows the All Crime trend on a rolling 12 month total. Compared to the March 2013 baseline, All Crime has reduced by 4.7%, equivalent to 947 less crimes.

Figure 2: Northampton All Crime - Crime Type Performance Overview

Crime Type	2012-13 Baseline	Volume (Prev 12 Months) Aug 12 - Jul 13	2013/14 YTD Performance (Volume Change)	2013/14 YTD Performance (% Change)
All Crime	19969	19022	-947	-4.7%
Violence Against The Person	3527	3262	-265	-7.5%
Violence With Injury	1812	1657	-155	-8.6%
Violence Without Injury	1715	1605	-110	-6.4%
Domestic Violence	1214	1192	-22	-1.8%
Sexual Offences	349	345	-4	-1.1%
All Stealing Offences	11207	10768	-439	-3.9%
Serious Acquisitive Crime	4080	3911	-169	-4.1%
Robbery	352	348	-4	-1.1%
Burglary Dwelling	1474	1516	42	2.8%
Vehicle Crime	2400	2181	-219	-9.1%
Theft Of Vehicle	420	391	-29	-6.9%
Theft From Vehicle	1834	1656	-178	-9.7%
Vehicle Interference	146	134	-12	-8.2%
Non Domestic Burglary	1196	1139	-57	-4.8%
Stealing Other	3800	3576	-224	-5.9%
Shoplifting	1985	2008	23	1.2%
Criminal Damage (inc Arson)	3090	2952	-138	-4.5%
Arson	85	90	5	5.9%
Fraud & Forgery	238	106	-132	-55.5%
Drug Offences	688	762	74	10.8%
Drug Possession	592	658	66	11.1%
Drug Trafficking	96	104	8	8.3%

Legend	Increase greater than 5%	Increase between 0 & 5%	Reduction between 0 & 5%	Reduction >5%
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****Crime types above are various composites of other crime types and cannot be summed to calculate All Crime.***

- 3.1.3 Figure 2 above shows a breakdown of how the All Crime reduction has manifested. The majority of crime types have reduced since March 2013.

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- 3.1.4 The key areas of crime which have reduced and led to a reduction of All Crime are Violence Against the Person, Fraud & Forgery, Vehicle Crime, Criminal Damage and Stealing Other.
- 3.1.5 Fraud & Forgery has taken a dramatic decline because from October 2012 this crime type is recorded by a national agency, Action Fraud, and very few crimes are now recorded by Northamptonshire Police.
- 3.1.6 An increase in recorded drug offences is indicative of a more pro-active approach to this type of offending.
- 3.1.7 Victim based crime (which only includes violence offences, sexual offences and stealing offences) has reduced by 4.6%, equivalent to 840 crimes. This is a more relevant figure for the CSP.**
- 3.1.8 Vehicle Crime was a key performance issue during 2012-13 and a continuous downward trend since the beginning of the calendar year has resulted in a 9.1% reduction since March 2013.
- 3.1.9 Key performance issues in 2013-14 to date are Burglary dwelling and Shoplifting offences.
- 3.1.10 A comparison with Northampton's most similar CSPs nationally is not available currently due to data quality concerns.

3.2 Locations

Figure 2: 2013-14 Crime Reduction

Sector	All Crime		All Victim Based Crime	
	%	Vol	%	Vol
Central	-5.4%	-351	-5.4%	-307
North East	-3.1%	-261	-2.8%	-221
South West	-6.5%	-324	-9.1%	-13

- 3.2.1 Northampton is now divided into three police sectors; Central, North East and South West.
- 3.2.2 Every sector of Northampton has had a reduction in All Crime and all Victim Based Crime.
- 3.2.3 Violence has notably reduced in the Central Sector of Northampton.
- 3.2.4 Vehicle Crime has notably reduced in the South Sector of Northampton.

3.3 Key Activity

- 3.3.1 There is a greater emphasis on prevention and early intervention across the county and within Northampton. Officers are patrolling hotspot areas at key hours of the day, speaking to local residents about crime prevention, and using stop search and 'request to leave' powers when appropriate to disrupt potential criminal activity and anti-social behaviour.

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- 3.3.2 A number of arrests of key offenders have been made in relation to acquisitive offending which has led to a notable drop in vehicle crime volume.
- 3.3.3 A pro-active alcohol harm reduction team has been introduced to tackle town centre violent crime and this is seen to be having positive results.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 The CSP will deliver multi-agency plans to tackle acquisitive crime (particularly Burglary Dwelling) in key areas of the borough.
- 4.2 The CSP will continue to support Northamptonshire Police's current predictive policing approach to tackling Burglary Dwelling.
- 4.3 Partners will continue to work together to tackle violence against the person relating to alcohol harm within the night time economy.

5. Conclusion & Recommendations

- 5.1 The update is noted.
- 5.2 A further performance update on All Crime is provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of the Community Safety Partnership briefing.

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