

For Information	
Public	Public
Report to:	Strategic Resources and Performance Meeting
Date of Meeting:	15th July 2019
Report of:	Chief Constable Craig Guildford
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Agenda Item:	9

Chief Constable's Update Report

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members of the Strategic Resources and Performance Board of significant events and work that has taken place since the previous update in March 2019.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the contents of the attached report are noted.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To ensure that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is aware of significant and notable events since the previous update report in March 2019.

4. Summary of Key Points

- 4.1 Please see Appendix 1 for the full report.

5. Financial Implications and Budget Provision

- 5.1 There are no immediate financial implications relating to this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

- 6.1 There are no immediate Human Resource implications arising from this report.

7. Equality Implications

- 7.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

8. Risk Management

- 8.1 This is an opportunity to make the OPCC aware of the significant events for Nottinghamshire Police, the majority of which are already in the public domain. There are no associated risks regarding this report.

9. Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

- 9.1 There are no policy implications arising from this report which is linked to all four of the Police and Crime Plan priorities.

10. Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

- 10.1 There are no legal considerations

11. Details of outcome of consultation

- 11.1 There has been no consultation on this report as it is for information only.

12. Appendices

- 12.1 Appendix 1 – Chief Constable's Update Report July 2019.

Appendix 1



Chief Constable's Update Report

Strategic Resources and Performance Board

July 2019

Version 1

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Since my previous update report in March of this year, there has been a significant amount of work taking place that I will provide updates on.
- 1.2 Firstly, I was delighted to confirm Kate Meynell into the post of Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) in May after she was successful in her application and interview. Kate had been in the role temporarily since July 2018 and I am delighted that she will remain with us in a permanent capacity as ACC lead for crime and specialist operations.
- 1.3 In March 2019, we bid farewell to Superintendent Andrea Baxter who retired from her post as local area commander for the City. Andrea worked hard to build partnerships with key stakeholders and to tackle crime in the city area and I wish her all the best for her retirement. I was pleased to promote Mat Healey to Superintendent in April as Andrea's replacement and I look forward to working with Mat over the coming years.
- 1.4 In September 2018, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Fire and Rescue (HMICFRS) undertook an unannounced inspection of the Force's custody provision. ACC Cooper has been leading on our response to this we are well on course to ensure that the areas identified for improvement are met.
- 1.5 HMICFRS also published their latest Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL) report in March 2019 and Nottinghamshire Police were graded as 'good'. This is a fantastic outcome and I want to place on record my thanks to every member of staff who worked tirelessly to make this happen.
- 1.6 The information in these update reports should be taken in the context of our heavily scrutinised budgets to ensure that we are continuing to spend public money wisely. As a result I am pleased to report that we closed the financial year on target. That is down to the budget holders and to the finance team who have worked relentlessly to ensure that the force is in a good position ready for the 2019/20 financial year.
- 1.7 The content of this report below provides various updates on the work that has been taking place over recent months set in the context of changes to our estate, increases in our workforce, changes to the budget as mentioned above and the national setting.
- 1.8 This update report provides information on just some of the work that has been taking place recently and is set out by each of the Police and Crime Commissioner's four strategic priority themes:
 1. Protecting people from harm
 2. Helping and supporting victims
 3. Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour
 4. Transforming services and delivering quality policing.

2.0 Strategic Theme 1: Protecting People from Harm

- 2.1 Protecting our communities from harm is a key objective for Nottinghamshire Police. We want to ensure that neighbourhoods in both the county and the city remain safe places for people to live, work and visit and we achieve this by working with our partners and communities. We have made significant inroads in reducing burglary and protecting people from harm over the past twelve months but we continue to find innovative ways to continue to protect people from harm.
- 2.2 Following the success of the last knife crime amnesty in September 2018, when 418 bladed weapons were taken off the streets, Nottinghamshire Police continued its support in March 2019, as part of the national knife crime campaign Operation Sceptre. Knife amnesty bins were located at 15 police stations and partner agency receptions across Nottinghamshire, in total 635 bladed weapons were taken off the streets. An additional 48 weapons were also seized during this operation in either from individuals or area sweeps.
- 2.3 In April the Right Honorable Nick Hurd MP granted £1,540,000 to Nottinghamshire Police for the purpose of tackling knife crime. ACC Meynell is leading on this work and the allocation of the funding across four areas of activity; increased resources, surge activity, increased capability and preventative/diversionary initiatives. Focusing our efforts in this way will build on the good work that has already taken place to date in tackling knife crime and protecting people from the harm caused by these senseless crimes. I look forward to seeing the results of this investment throughout the summer and the rest of the year.
- 2.4 Another example is a new initiative which began at the start of the year saw us introduce new Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to increase our coverage and effectiveness. One example of how these new cameras have contributed to our objective to find new ways to continue to protect people from harm is evident when on 10th June an ANPR activation in the City was triggered relating to a high risk child sexual exploitation (CSE) missing from home individual. Officers very quickly got behind the vehicle following a couple of activations in the city and the young female within the vehicle was taken to a place of safety with the male driver being arrested for trafficking and abduction offences. The vehicle was also seized. This is a real success story in how we are actively preventing people from coming to harm using innovative tactics to support day to day policing.
- 2.5 At the start of the 2017/18 academic year, Nottinghamshire Police rolled out a School and Early Intervention Officer (SEIO) pilot programme across 12 secondary schools in Nottinghamshire (four in City and eight in County). The SEIO programme has been designed as part of the preventative local policing strategy which seeks to: (i) prevent offending, (ii) safeguard young people, (iii) promote personal development and; (iv) work to prevent young people entering the Criminal Justice System (as offenders). Nottinghamshire Police's core position is that having police officers within the school environment - focusing on prevention and early intervention - is the way forward to effectively engage with young people (Nottinghamshire Police, 2017). Recent findings

from the pilot, have shown that it is highly valued by young people involved; relationships with the police are cementing / improving; as well as an indication that the SEIO programme has played a part in generating positive attitudes toward the police. The review also reported a range of positive feedback from schools, parents and students and will help shape the team's work moving forwards

Proactive deployments are scheduled throughout the year which includes events/campaigns on topics such as Knife Crime, DARE, Cyber security, anti-bullying and road safety.

- 2.6 Following on from sentencing on 29th June for the trial for Operation Hobart - the murder of Esrom Ghide, where he was attacked by a number of males, receiving 17 knife injuries, 12 puncture wounds and a fatal wound to his head; five young men were identified, arrested and prosecuted. Two of these males were aged 16yrs at the time of the murder, three aged 14yrs. They were all charged with murder (joint enterprise) and remanded into custody. After an eight week trial the jury found three of the defendants (one 16yr old, now 17yrs and two 14yr olds, now 15yrs) guilty of murder. The jury acquitted the other two defendants due to lack of evidence that they either had a knife or knew that a knife was to be used. The family of the deceased were at court throughout and are supportive of the investigation and result.
- 2.7 On 1 November 2018 officers responded to a commercial burglary at East Leake Post Office. Upon their arrival they found that the cigarette gantry had been attacked by multiple offenders who had fled in a white hatchback vehicle. ANPR identified a vehicle of interest to the investigation.

Investigating officers also identified that this Burglary was linked to a number of other similar burglaries across the Force area. The primary suspect was arrested, vehicle recovered, stolen property and relevant clothing recovered, and mobile phone retrieved.

Telecommunications data was obtained which identified two co-conspirators. These phone numbers were then attributed to the others involved. These persons were located, and arrested. Again after searching their home addresses items relevant to the investigation were recovered. The greatest difficulty with the investigation is that there was no evidence available to directly link any suspect with the scenes of crime. Investigating officers were able to present telecommunications data in such a way that showed a conspiracy and co-location between the three suspects relevant to 6 offences of commercial burglary.

On Tuesday 2 July, the three offenders have pleaded guilty part way through trial and received the following sentences – ranging from 3 years 9 months to 4 years 3 months.

- 2.8 On 9 April 2019 Amy Hayes was convicted of an offence of Burglary at Bestwood Road Hucknall. This offence involved Hayes distracting the vulnerable elderly victim into allowing her entry before stealing items from within. At court Hayes pleaded guilty and asked for another offence of burglary, handling stolen goods and associated fraud offences to be Taken Into Consideration. Hayes received 4 years' imprisonment.

- 2.9 On Monday 1 July, a man who committed burglaries at three city pubs and three other premises was jailed. Darren Coomber, 44, of no fixed address, was locked up for a total of six years when he appeared at Nottingham Crown Court. Coomber stole bottles of spirits after entering the private area of the Via Fossa pub on Canal Street on the night of 31 March 2019. He also stole a purse containing cash, bank cards and a necklace from the private staff area of the Mojo pub on Thurland Street on 4 April 2019, and took another purse containing cash and bank cards from the private staff area of The Old Dog and Partridge pub on Upper Parliament Street on 5 April 2019. Coomber committed further burglaries at a student property in Upper Parliament Street, on 4 April 2019, and at two homes in Chilwell on the night of 5 April 2019. During one of the Chilwell house burglaries the victim found Coomber in his kitchen. He left empty-handed when challenged. The victim of the other house burglary was alerted by someone who saw Coomber walking out of her house with a backpack. It contained her purse, bank cards and a tablet computer. Coomber was later caught on CCTV cameras using the cards at various stores. He went on to plead guilty to six charges of burglary and a charge of committing fraud by false representation. Coomber was jailed for six years after admitting to burgling a home in Bramcote Avenue, Chilwell, on 5 April 2019. He also received concurrent prison sentences, ranging from three years to five-and-a-half years, for the other offences he also admitted.
- 2.10 Another significant result was that of a 74-year old man who was found guilty of three counts of rape and three counts of indecent assault at Nottingham Crown Court on Monday 1 July. James Rice, of Nottingham Road, Giltbrook, pleaded not guilty to the offences but was found guilty after a trial. The offences took place during the 1970s and 1980s, and were reported in 2017.
- 2.11 Between 01/06/2019 and 17/06/2019 there were four knife point robberies reported to have occurred on the University of Nottingham, University Park campus. In all four robberies young male students were targeted. The MO used and suspect descriptions were very similar in each circumstance. Following the last reported robbery the new Force Robbery Team took over the investigation of all four robberies as a series. To prevent further robberies recurring Operation Washtub was implemented by DI Kayne Rukas and resources were deployed into the University grounds to patrol between identified 'risky' times. The objectives of the Operation were to deploy both uniformed and plain clothes officers onto the University Park campus to;
- Identify suspects
 - Provide reassurance to the University community
 - Support University security in carrying out preventative patrols
 - Conduct stop checks / searches as necessary and generate intelligence in relation to non-University students/staff using the site
 - Disrupt and deter activity of offenders committing these robberies

Subsequent to this the ongoing investigation into the robberies continued. As a result of that investigation two suspects were identified. The suspects were identified through

CCTV images of a suspect using a stolen bank card from and the second through forensic evidence from an item left behind.

Subsequently the two 17yr old suspects were arrested and interviewed for the series of robberies.

3.0 Strategic Theme 2: Helping and Supporting Victims

- 3.1 Nottinghamshire Police is extremely committed to helping and supporting victims of crime. It is our leading aim to bring those responsible for criminal acts to justice and to provide appropriate support to victims and witnesses throughout our investigations.
- 3.2 At a recent Force Executive Board we received an update from East Midlands Criminal Justice Service around the number of positive outcomes achieved for victims. Data presented shows that in quarter 3 Nottinghamshire continued to exceed the national average conviction rate in the Magistrates Court with 86.1% against the average of 84.4%. We are ranked 18th nationally. This is the highest conviction rate of the four EMCJS regional forces. In the Crown Court Nottinghamshire have a conviction rate of 82.2% against a national average of 80.8% for quarter 3, which is the highest conviction rate this year in Nottinghamshire and the highest rate in the EMCJS region.
- 3.3 I am pleased to report the continued success with the Girls only boxing club, which is aimed at vulnerable girls, who may be at risk of CSE or being pulled into criminal activities. The club encourages girls to help and support each other, empowering them to make the right choices building their self-esteem along the way. The club is ran in partnership with an ex world champion boxer.
- 3.4 In the March update report I highlighted Operation Signature, which is a measure we are undertaking to undertake fraud protect visits to vulnerable victims of financial crime. In the six months to the end of May 2019 over 200 vulnerable victims of fraud were visited and many of the victims indicate that they now feel more empowered to understand how to protect themselves from any repeat victimisation. Our work to protect vulnerable people from financial harm extends further than the fraud protect visits. Examples of innovative ideas include distribution of fraud protect advice through pharmacies in prescription bags, educating retailers of i-tunes vouchers and the public around the proliferation of fraudsters seeking to acquire i-tune vouchers, and instigation of discussions at national level with the main Funeral Director Services because bereavement is identified as a potential trigger to fraud.
- 3.5 I regularly receive correspondence from members of the public highlighting the excellent work undertaken by officers and staff across the organisation. Many of these letters are to highlight to me how officers and staff have gone over and above their duty to help and support victims. One particular letter stands out to me where the author thanked officers for dealing with public order offences relating to long standing issues with their neighbor. Officers were described as ‘...highly professional, caring and committed’ and successfully secured charges against the offenders when they had

thought there was little that could be done. The victim described the outcome as feeling ‘...the weight of the world lifting from us.’

4.0 Strategic Theme 3: Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

- 4.1 At the Police and Crime Panel in April, the Police and Crime Commissioner updated members on the end of year crime statistics for 2018-2019. The number of crimes in Nottinghamshire increased by 18.4% over that year although the number of calls for assistance rose by just 1.9% in the same period. We cannot yet make any comparisons with other forces as the national crime statistics have not been released at the time of writing this report. However, the force is converting more incidents to crimes in order to ensure that it achieves the best possible standards of compliance with National Crime Recording Standards. There are areas in which the number of crimes has increased and we are continuously working to tackle these and all areas of crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB). For example, the introduction of the two dedicated burglary teams I highlighted in my previous report to address the rise in burglary offences. As I highlighted in section 3 above, officers in Nottinghamshire are arresting, prosecuting and convicting a significantly higher number of positive outcomes.
- 4.2 On Monday 20 May we launched a new robbery team to target the county’s most serious and prolific offenders. The team is comprised of one detective sergeant and six detective constables who have been paid for by the recent council tax precept increase as part of the recruitment of 40 new front-line officers. The team is based at St Ann’s police station but they are a dedicated resource throughout the force area to investigate the most serious robberies and to carry out proactive operations in hot-spot areas. Results to date have shown the benefits of this approach with two teenagers charged with an attempted robbery on Beeston Road on Friday 24 May 2019, a thirteen year old boy charged with two robberies which took place in the Meadows on 12 May 2019 and an eleven year old boy also charged with the two robberies in the Meadows, who pleaded guilty to these and six other charges on 5 June 2019. I look forward to seeing further successes over the coming months.
- 4.3 Specifically linked to this strategic theme is the launch of Operation Compass in Nottingham City Centre on 10 June. This team is dedicated to tackling city crime and ASB associated with vulnerable people who are begging, street drinking and other street lifestyle issues. The team will work closely with partners to bring about long term solutions and break the cycle of offending and vulnerability using a tailored multi-agency response and a staged approach to enforcement where necessary. Operation Compass will also tackle issues of street prostitution through the work of the Prostitution Team and close collaboration with partners.
- 4.4 Our serious and organised crime department continues to achieve excellent results in tackling crimes of this nature. Some key operations achieving significant results include Operation Xylographer, which is the conclusion to a policing operation in Bestwood where 24 warrants were executed over a week’s period and 17 people were charged with conspiracy to supply Class A drugs and firearms offences. Operation Yew, a city

based operation following intelligence about a male in possession of a firearm where 5 warrants were executed, 1 handgun and ammunition were recovered, £8,000 cash seized, a large quantity of Class A drugs recovered and 1 male charged and remanded with drugs and firearms offences, and Operation Virtuality, which is an investigation in respect of tensions between individuals within the city where 4 handguns and ammunition were recovered, a large amount of class A drugs were recovered, 11 warrants were executed and 10 people were charged with a conspiracy to possess a firearm with intent to endanger life. Of the 10, 8 are currently charged and remanded in prison, with the other 2 charged and on court bail.

Continuing on from this was the successful arrest on Tuesday 25 June, of 3 offenders for firearms offences, which took place on Saturday 8 June. The offenders had exited a vehicle and discharged a saw off shotgun at another vehicle. No injuries were sustained to passengers of the vehicle.

5.0 Strategic Theme 4: Transforming Services and Delivering Quality Policing

5.1 With a view to transforming services and delivering quality policing, we have been reviewing our estate over the past few years to see where we can make efficiency savings and reduce running costs to provide even better value for money to the public. A key part of this work has involved developing an approach with partners so that we can share buildings and facilities where it is appropriate to do so. We now have a number of shared hubs with local Councils and front counters in areas that are accessible to the public meaning that we can share running costs and make better use of public funds. We are becoming more agile and flexible with an improved problem solving approach allowing us to reduce our non-pay budget and focus on front line deliverables.

In June, work officially began on a new blue-light tri-service hub in Hucknall, which will be shared by Nottinghamshire Police, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service and East Midlands Ambulance Service. The hub, which will be based at EMAS's existing ambulance station site on Annesley Road, will enable the three emergency services to work closer together and to deliver a quality service to the public. It is anticipated that the building work will be completed next year.

5.2 In my previous update report I included information on the business case between the Force and Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to develop a joint Headquarters. I'm pleased to report that progress continues and that detailed designs are being developed to form the basis of tender documents. The project is on track for planning application submission in July.

5.3 Finally, from an estates point of view, Nottingham custody suite project remains on track with the current activity being preparation for formal planning permission by the end of June. The internal design and external elevations are close to being finalised. The construction of the suite will bring employment to the area. We will aim to use local

suppliers and contractors where possible and we will be discussing apprenticeships and other ways of giving back to the local community with the main contractors.

- 5.4 In March, HMICFRS published their latest Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL) report. Overall the force was graded as 'good' which was a fantastic achievement, particularly in the vulnerability area where we improved from 'inadequate' to 'good' over 2 years. HMI Zoe Billingham said, 'The force investigates crime well. I am particularly pleased that it has improved how it identifies and responds to vulnerable people and works effectively with other agencies to protect them.' This result is testament to the hard work that every member of staff has put in and I want to place on record my thanks. We are not complacent however, and I know we will continue to build on this progress over the coming months.
- 5.5 I mentioned in the introduction the HMICFRS unannounced custody inspection which took place in the autumn last year. Nottinghamshire Custody deals with a high level of demand and on average deals with 1500 detained persons a month, the most in the region with Leicestershire being the next closest with around 1000.

Following the HMICFRS visit 29 areas for improvement were identified and we are well on course to ensure those areas are met. The ethos has been to introduce changes that will see continued safe detention of those arrested and sustainable improvements in all aspects of the custody provision. For example we have introduced a ground breaking joint protocol between us, the City and County Council, which details how we deal with children and young persons in custody and prevent the unnecessary detention of that vulnerable section of our communities.

- 5.6 In collaboration with Nottingham Trent University, I am pleased to announce that we are now able to offer the 'Police Emergency Call Handler (PECH)' role in our Contact Management Department as part of the University's Policing Pathway degree. Undergraduates will sign up to the PECH Policing Pathway on an amended BA Policing degree, undertaking the required training and mentoring during the summer break between year 1 and 2 of their course. This is a great opportunity for us to bring people in to the organisation through a different route and as part of their own education. We hope this type of engagement will widen opportunities for people wishing to work for Nottinghamshire Police while at the same time providing extra resilience to the organisation during peak months.
- 5.7 Working with Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue, we have been fortunate to purchase two drones. 15 pilots have attended training and successfully completed the ground school course and will undergo a period of supervised flying with Derbyshire Constabulary Drone team. Once the pilots are certified they should be granted the relevant permissions to fly operationally. By having access to this technology and equipment it will allow for operational gains such as, the ability to release operational officers to attend other incidents, whilst the Drone technology is utilised when searching for missing person, or suspects.

- 5.8 I was extremely pleased when new legislation to protect service animals came into force on 8 June. The Animal Welfare (Service Animals) Bill, Finn's Law, will prevent those who attack or injure service animals from claiming self-defence. The new legislation, coupled with the government's plans to increase maximum sentences for animal cruelty offences to five years in prison, will make sure that those who harm service animals are punished accordingly.
- 5.9 With developments in technology and following on from successful piloting, the force is rolling out what3words to respond to incidents more effectively. Using 3 word addresses gives callers a simple way to describe precisely where help is needed and allow these forces to get resources straight to the scene. The force is rolling out what3words location technology in a revolutionary move to improve response times. The App what3words has divided the world into a grid of 3m x 3m squares and given each square a unique 3 word address. Staff within the force's Control Room are now using the system to respond to incidents more effectively.

6. Some further key results since March 2019

- 6.1 Within Contact Management, 999 calls are stable this year to-date although have seen an uplift of 800 which seems to be fairly common around the country. 101 calls are running at 10,000 lower year-to-date (YTD) and our call answering time is 87.4% in 60 seconds and an abandonment rate of 1.5% (1,105 abandoned YTD compared to 5,763 last year to date or 7%). Our incident conversion rate (incidents created per 100 calls) is 65.5%, which is up from 62.2%. We have undertaken a lot of work diverting demand away from the control room using the intelligent voice recognition (IVR), for example routing calls to answer machine messages so people get the information they need without having to speak to a person.
- 6.2 I am really pleased to announce that my charity for this year is Nottinghamshire Search and Rescue (NSART). In April there was an internal poll where a charity is nominated and selected by members of staff. With funds that have been raised so far, we have been fortunate to assist NSART with the purchase of a van and four pedal cycles. Throughout the year, we will hold cake sales as well as well as dress down, and have so far raised £180 by raffling off a designated car parking space. Last year, we raised £3967 for the 2018/19 Chief's Charity, Papplewick Riding for the Disabled, which has gone towards a number of improvements that will make a big difference to the volunteers, riders and horses there.
- 6.3 On Monday 11 March 2019 a man was sentenced to 16yrs imprisonment for a gun point rape. He will have to serve a minimum of 12 years, with 3 years on licence at the end of his sentence, as well on the Sex Offenders' register for life and the victim has received a lifetime restraining order against him.
- 6.4 On Thursday 14 March 2019 a man received 15 years imprisonment for rape, gross indecency and indecent assault. He had denied all offences throughout.

The offences came to light after one of his victims went for counseling and the offender's current access to children led to the counselor contacting Police. Although one of his victims refused to co-operate and another had no capacity to assist, there was sufficient evidence for him to be found guilty on all charges.

- 6.5 On Tuesday 9 April 2019 following a 6 day trial, a man was found guilty of 6 counts of indecent assault against 4 victims who at the time of the offences were aged 3-7 years. The offending occurred in the early 1990's. The man was sentenced to 8 years imprisonment and will be on the Sex Offenders' Register for life as well as subject to a SHPO (Sexual Harm Prevention order).
- 6.6 On Monday 15 April 2019 sentences were passed following a guilty plea to ABH and coercive and controlling behaviour. The victim, at first, was uncooperative, after attending Broxtowe Police station with two broken fingers, disclosed DV but did not want her partner arresting, however response officers took positive action and arrested the offender. The victim disclosed 12 years of abuse, including physical, emotional and financial abuse, provided a statement and he was remanded. Due to the amount of evidence compiled the offender pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to 27 months custodial for the coercive and controlling and 3 months for the ABH to run concurrent.
- 6.7 On Thursday 2 May 2019 a man was found guilty and convicted for 10 years, which was an exceptional result following a lack of engagement from the victim, and only one witness who witnessed the attack. The man was being violent towards his female partner and had produced a knife to threaten to her; the offender stabbed her in the abdomen. This conviction demonstrates a really good outcome and what can be achieved, even under some difficult investigative circumstances.
- 6.8 On Thursday 23 May 2019 a firearm was discharged in Bestwood Park. Eight men appeared before magistrates on 1st June and Nottingham Crown Court on 1 July all charged over the incident. A ninth man was also arrested on 1 June charged with conspiring with others to possess a firearm with intent to endanger life between 8 and 30 May 2019. This is a fantastic result which demonstrates our commitment to bringing these offenders to justice.
- 6.9 On Tuesday 28 May 2019, four men were arrested following an armed policing operation. Two of those arrested are currently in custody having been arrested for possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence arising from a firearms discharge at Hazel Hill Crescent on 23 May 2019, whilst the other two have been detained for assisting an offender. Four firearms were recovered. The operation was an exceptional team effort involving a cross section of resources across the force, particularly CID Teams, Force Intelligence, Operational Support including firearms officers and commanders, dogs and the Territorial Support Team (TST), Crime Scene Investigation, Operation Reacher and Corporate Communications. The events of Tuesday were also supported by a number of Response and Neighbourhood officers and PCSOs.

6.10 Following a complex and challenging stalking case that culminated in an offence of Arson. The Officer in case, painstakingly resurrected previous crimes that had been reported to the Police to piece together a story of persistent stalking by the suspect. Telephone data was used to show that his telephone had been in the vicinity of the offences when they were committed. On arrest searches of the offender's premises an illegally held shotgun was seized. He was sentenced to a total of 6 years 3 months in prison after pleading to offences of possession of a shotgun without a certificate, false imprisonment, ABH, stalking and Arson by being reckless as to endangering life. The victim also received the added reassurance of a 10 year restraining order being issued.