



Strategic Policing and Crime Board

18th June 2019

Police and Crime Plan Priority: *Strengthening Communities and Supporting Economic Development*

Title: *Roads policing (Cameras, CMPG & ANPR) & Safer Travel*

Presented by: *ACC Chris Johnson*

Purpose of Paper

1. The purpose of this report is to present an overview to the Strategic Police and Crime Board (SPCB) on West Midlands Police (WMP) activity and performance outcomes relating to the topic of roads policing, roads safety and safer travel.

Background

2. The Central Motorway Police Group (CMPG) and WMP Force Traffic sit as one wider roads policing department. The focus of the department is to reduce harm caused by irresponsible road users in the West Midlands. While the scope is broad, it focuses on the areas of greatest concern as follows:
 - Prevent death and serious injury on the roads network
 - Disrupting organised criminality on the roads network
 - Fatal Four offences (seat belts, excess speed, drink/drugs and mobile phone use)
 - Uninsured drivers
 - Supporting national roads policing campaigns
 - Management of the most persistent traffic offenders
 - Locally identified priorities
3. To target road harm, the department has a wide ranging approach. The department reviews its identified road harm locations through collision data to allow effective, geographic and thematic patrols. The investment in a dedicated road harm reduction team allows the department to build capability across WMP in working with Neighbourhood Police Units (NPU) to develop schemes such as speedwatch. In 2019,

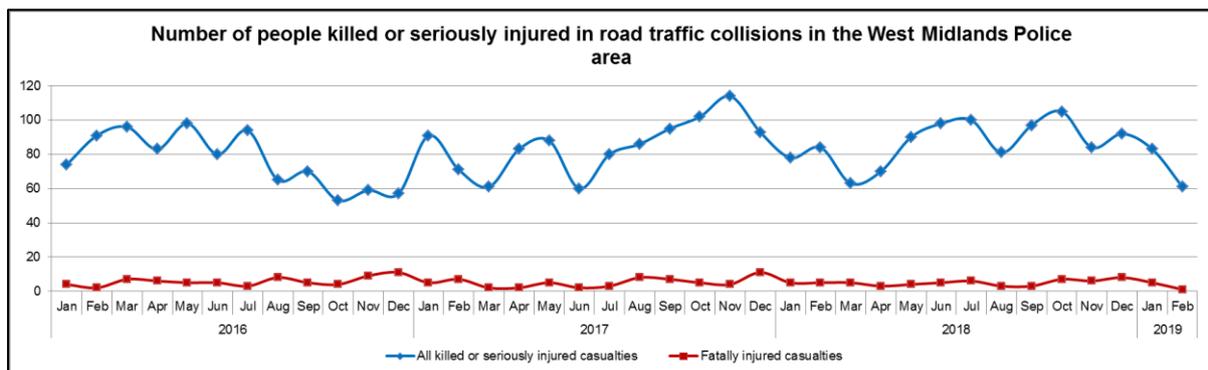
the department was acknowledged nationally by the Department for Transport (DfT) for two of its schemes, Operation Zig Zag and Operation Close Pass.

4. The department has a strong approach to tackling organised crime on the roads and the head of the department is the senior officer lead for Operation Cantil – a targeted operation tackling organised vehicle crime. This has been a hugely successful operation and is discussed in more detail throughout his paper.

Roads Policing

General Performance (including KSIs)

5. A total of 1,024 people have been seriously injured in road traffic collisions in the last 12 months, including 56 fatalities. The total number of killed or seriously injured casualties was exactly the same as in the previous 12 months but there has been a 5 per cent reduction in fatalities (from 59 to 56).
6. The number of killed or seriously injured casualties has remained stable over the last 12 months, an average of 82 per month which has been the average over a number of years.



7. WMP are one of three police forces taking part in a Government-funded Road Crash Investigation Project led by the RAC Foundation. The project aims to provide analysis that can inform better-targeted initiatives to improve road safety. An analytical researcher for this project is due to be appointed imminently.

General Capabilities (including Collision Investigation and Family Liaison)

8. A Roads Policing Academy has been successfully implemented to identify future officers for both CMPG and WMP Force Traffic Unit. At the centre of this approach is a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion with extensive work undertaken alongside staff networks to encourage applications from female and BAME officers in line with our force vision for inclusion. The academy is currently recruiting officers for WMP Force Traffic Unit and CMPG officers from West Midlands and Staffordshire.
9. The new process not only tests the candidate at interview, it also tests the candidate's practical skills and will ensure that the successful applicants will have a structured

development programme once they are appointed. This process will enable the force to create a pool of officers for future recruitment processes.

10. To date 95 candidates have applied for the Roads Policing Academy, of which 65 candidates have attended the assessment process, with 40 having progressed through to interview. The first academy process was completed in May 2019 with successful candidates taking up their posts by July 2019.

Uninsured Vehicles/Drivers

11. A total of 8,756 uninsured vehicles were seized by WMP over the last 12 months – 1 per hour. This is 12 per cent less than the previous 12 months. At present, WMP take an average of 706 uninsured vehicles off the road every month.
12. WMP supported the NPCC 'No Insurance' week of action in November 2018. During this period, 183 uninsured vehicles were seized. WMP will be supporting the next initiative in November 2019.

Op Wraithbane

13. Operation Wraithbane was used to tackle the antisocial use of motorcycles. In October 2016, WMP saw an increase in theft of motorcycle offences in the lead up to Halloween. These bikes were being stolen specifically to attend a planned ride out on 31st October. During this illegal ride out, approximately 200 motorcycles were used in an antisocial manner on the streets of Birmingham and Solihull.
14. Using the learning from 2016, in October 2017, WMP executed over 30 warrants in order to prevent another large scale ride out on Halloween. The warrants were simultaneously executed the day before Halloween resulting in a number of motorcycles being seized and clear messaging being sent out to potential offenders. This positive action resulted in no ride out taking place, freeing up operational officers to be redeployed to force and community priorities. The same action was taken on Halloween 2018 which again resulted in no large scale ride out taking place.
15. Officers from Operation Wraithbane have attended a number of other forces including Essex, Bedford, South Wales and the Metropolitan Police Force in order to share the learning obtained throughout the process from investigation to conviction. Other forces have taken on the tactics used by WMP to tackle their increasing problems in relation to the antisocial use of motorcycles.
16. Operation Wraithbane resulted in 48 suspects being charged, with 29 either pleading or being found guilty at court. The remaining defendants were either found not guilty or a jury was unable to decide on their guilt (hung jury).
17. On 14th March 2019, all 29 defendants were sentenced, with sentences ranging from 2 years imprisonment to 8 months suspended with a fine. Deprivation orders were made for the remaining vehicles, with 10 motorcycles being destroyed as part of the plan to deter another large scale ride outs taking place in the West Midlands.
18. Since Operation Wraithbane's conception, WMP has not seen another ride out of this scale. We continue to see a number of funeral processions where a large number of

mourners pay their respect by taking to the streets on off-road motor cycles and the Operation Wraithbane team have dealt with a number of these riders separately. This has involved working together with Solihull Council and the PPT team to create dedicated pathways, including working alongside council staff in repairing damage caused to recreation areas used by off-road motorcycles.

19. The post-incident investigation has now been closed due to the successful prosecution of the defendants. There is a nominated force SPOC/TAC advisor available for any future matters involving large scale ride outs.

Cameras

20. For the financial year of 2018/19, there were 60,339 speeding offences sent to the Central Ticket Office (CTO) for process. These offences were captured by the range of cameras that are in use across the West Midlands (average, variable and mobile).

Month	Offences passed to CTO
Apr 18	5311
May 18	4296
June 18	4804
July 18	4530
Aug 18	5828
Sept 18	4132
Oct 18	7005
Nov 18	5548
Dec 18	4850
Jan 19	4036
Feb 19	4515
March 19	5484

21. The Birmingham and Solihull project is now in the 3rd year of a 5 year pilot scheme. Birmingham have already added another location into their framework, which was Belgrave Middleway. This was introduced in December 2018.
22. Coventry have finalised their intentions for installation of average cameras. WMP have been enforcing 2 locations since January 2019. Coventry have already shared their intentions of expanding further but conversations and agreements have not yet started.

23. The Black Country Area (Dudley, Walsall, Sandwell and Wolverhampton) have collaborated together to start their process for installing average speed cameras on a number of roads. The legal agreement between all parties is still on-going and we are hoping that this will be resolved by the end of May 2019.

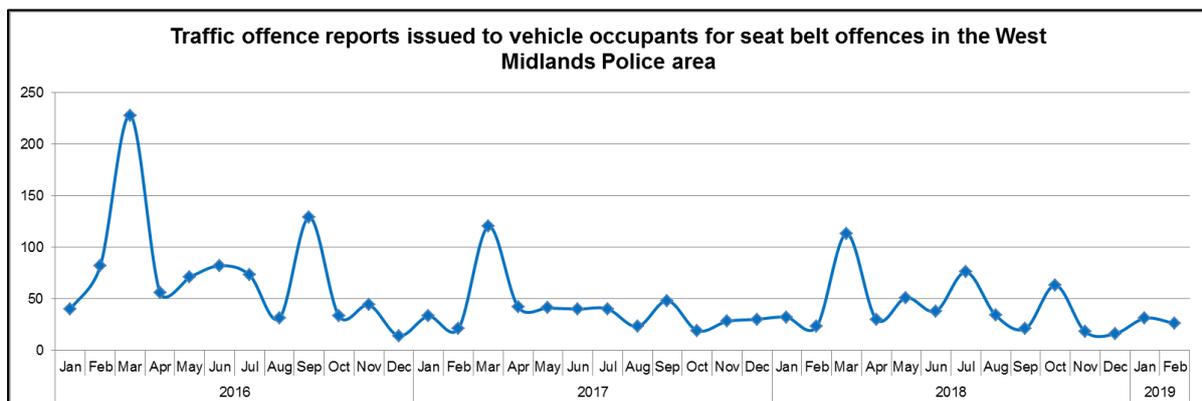
‘Close Pass’ Operations

- 24. ‘Close pass’ operations consist of an officer in plain clothes riding a pedal cycle on roads identified as ‘hot spots’ for collisions involving pedal cyclists, to identify offending vehicles who pass within 1.5 metres of them. A colleague in a police vehicle then escorts the offender on to a nearby site. The driver completes an eyesight test and is given education in relation to how to safely share the road with cyclists.
- 25. Responsibility for conducting ‘close pass’ operations is held by the WMP Road Harm Reduction Team. At present, the Road Harm Reduction Team is conducting weekly ‘close pass’ operations. This initiative has won praise and awards from across the UK and has been implemented by 16 other police forces.
- 26. ‘Close pass’ is trying to alter driver behaviours and WMP hope that motorists will share what they have learned with others. So far there have been approximately 250 interactions.
- 27. ‘Close Pass’ has been actively adopted by the majority of forces within the country, and enquires have come into the force from Australia.

Fatal Four

Seat belts

28. 517 seat belt offences were reported by WMP over the last 12 months. This is a 6 per cent increase compared to the previous 12 months. WMP supported the only national seat belt enforcement campaign in the last 12 months in March 2018 when 98 offences were reported. The overall increase was assisted by two enforcement operations that were arranged outside of the national campaigns calendar. 21 offences were reported in a 90 minute period on Summer Road, Erdington in July with Road Harm Reduction Team officers working alongside colleagues from the local Neighbourhood Team. In one 35-minute period in October 2018, 18 offences were reported by the Road Harm Reduction Team and local Neighbourhood officers on Naseby Road, Alum Rock.



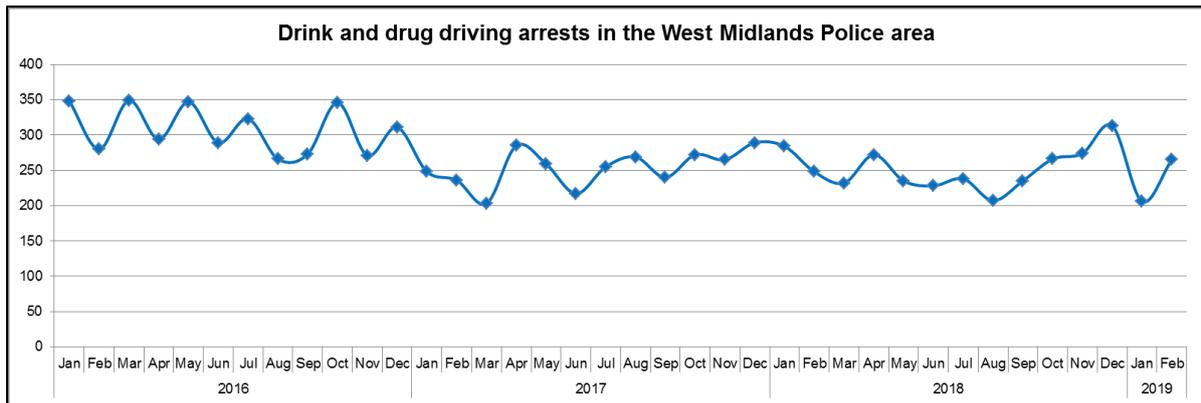
Speed

29. 3,997 speeding offences were detected and reported by WMP officers in the last 12 months, in addition to offences detected by automated equipment. This is a 95 per cent increase on the previous 12 months and is attributed to an increase in speed enforcement by Road Harm Reduction Team officers on the 20 strategic KSI routes mentioned in last year's document (paragraph 11) and in locations with high numbers of speeding complaints. 66 per cent of officer-reported (as opposed to camera detected) speeding offences in the last 12 months reported by WMP were from officers in the Road Harm Reduction Team.
30. WMP participated in both national speed enforcement campaigns in the last 12 months with 623 offences reported in the 7-day campaign in April and 704 in the August edition.



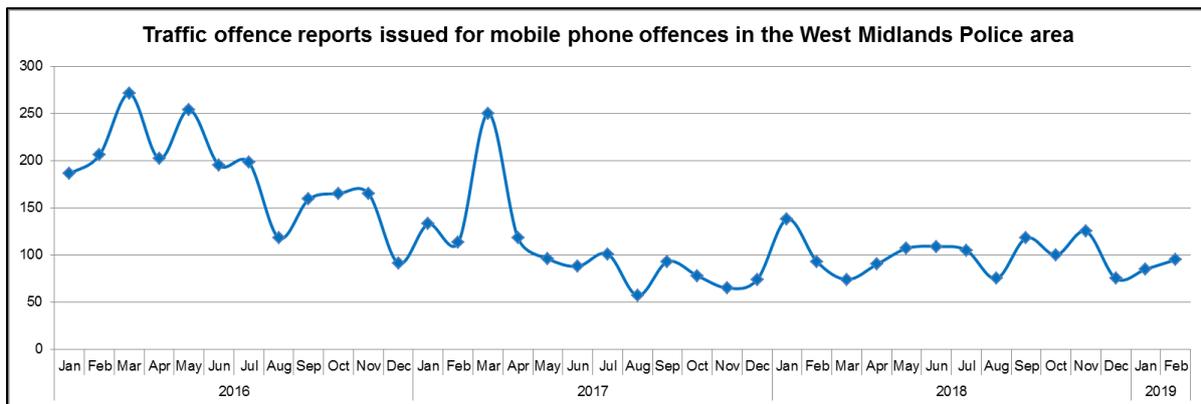
Drink and drug driving

31. 2,971 drink and/or drug drivers were arrested by WMP in the last 12 months, one every 3 hours. This is a 3 per cent reduction compared to the previous 12 months. However, December 2018 had the highest number of arrests in a month since October 2016 and the highest number of arrests for drink and/or drug driving in a December since 2015.
32. WMP have taken part in both national drink/drug driving campaigns in the last 12 months. The summer campaign, which coincided with the dates of the 2018 football world cup, resulted in 177 arrests and the Christmas campaign throughout December and New Year's Day which recorded 323 arrests. WMP will be participating in a 2-week long campaign beginning on 24th June and the Christmas campaign later in the year.



Mobile phone use

- 33. 1,158 drivers were reported for using a mobile phone in the last 12 months. This is a 7 per cent reduction compared to the previous 12 months. The previous 12 months included the first month when the penalty for mobile phone use whilst driving was increased to a £200 fine and 6 penalty point driving licence endorsement. Excluding the enforcement activity carried out in March 2017 with the introduction of the new legislation, there was an increase of 8 per cent in the number of mobile phone offences reported in the last 12 months.
- 34. WMP supported the only national mobile phone enforcement campaign in the last 12 months when 63 offences reported over a week in September.



Tackling serious and organised crime on the roads

- 35. Over the last 12 months, roads policing officers based in the WMP area have seized criminal assets from vehicles stopped worth over £28 million including nearly £2 million worth of drugs and nearly £3 million in cash. There have also been large scale commodity seizures whilst working with organisations such as HM Revenue and Customs, the West Midlands Regional Organised Crime Unit and the National Crime Agency as well as the recovery of high value stolen vehicles as part of Operation Cantil.
- 36. In addition to the recovery of valuable commodities, 123 weapons have been recovered from vehicles stopped by roads policing officers over the last 12 months helping to tackle violence associated with serious and organised criminality.

Seized drugs	Seized cash	Other seized criminal assets	Arrests
£1,911,355	£2,943,900	£23,407,745	2,474

Update on Multi-Agency Road Safety Operation (MARSO)

37. The Multi Agency Road Safety Operation (MARSO) gives Neighbourhood Policing Teams a unique tactic in order to concentrate high visibility policing in specific areas. This operation is led by the Road Harm Reduction Team as a tactic to reduce risk on our roads, by removing the vehicles causing or likely to cause the most harm to other road users, while allowing the Neighbourhood Policing Team to address crime spikes, ASB issues or other crime and community concerns.
38. The MARSO uses traffic motorcycles and marked or unmarked cars to spot vehicles that are in poor condition, while also using ANPR or any information markers associated with vehicles. Vehicles are then brought onto a static site, staffed by the Neighbourhood Policing teams, and multiple key partner agencies, who deal with the vehicles and occupants.
39. Key partners include Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA), Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA), HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), Environment Agency, West Midlands Fore Service (WMFS), Court Warrants Officers, Licensing Officers. This tactic is only effective because of the work done by our key partners and it highlights the impact a joined up approach can have.
40. MARSO has recently been adopted by other forces and the initiative has been recognised nationally as effective practice, with other forces launching similar operations.

Operations (March 18-Feb 19)	Vehicles Stopped	TPO10 Issued	PG9's Issued	No Insurance Seizures	Partner Prosecutions	Education	Stolen Recovered	Arrests	Positive Breath Tests	Failed Eye Test	NFA	% of Vehicle stops with positive outcomes
27	575	303	122	82	61	55	5	16	3	1	137	76%

Activity and results from MARSO since March 18

41. 22% of vehicles stopped were not roadworthy and therefore a PG9 (prohibition notice) was issued to lawfully require them to fix the fault on their vehicle.
42. 15% of vehicles stopped were not insured and 4% of vehicles stopped were not taxed so both were seized.

ANPR

43. WMP are nearing completion of the installation of the cameras on the West Midlands side of the ANPR project, with only 18 of the 93 remaining to be installed. These cameras have already started to yield success. One example of this is the deployment of a camera in a new site in Kings Heath, resulting in the apprehension of ram-raid offenders within the first 24 hours.
44. The first phase of the Motorway replacement is underway, with the installation of the cameras in the service stations now complete. We have now started to install the cameras on the network.
45. We are still waiting for an update from the Highways Agency (HA) in relation to the proposed update to their ANPR infrastructure, from which we were to obtain a feed. This would reduce the costs to our replacement camera project. If HA reverse their decision to invest in ANPR technology and use another platform this will increase the cost to the region. This has been registered on the project risk register.

Safer Travel

46. The Police and Crime Commissioners Safer Travel Plan was formally signed off in October 2016 and approved for delivery. Delivery will continue through until 2020. The Safer Travel Plan consists of 30 deliverables under 6 main work streams which are covered below.

Reduce Crime, Disorder and ASB

47. The Safer Travel team consists of 10 West Midlands Police Officers and 17 police staff, alongside 5 British Transport Police Officers, 7 police staff and 5 Special Constables. Funding has been secured to recruit a further 4 police officers and 12 Special Constables. Safer Travel will split this recruitment equally between WMP and BTP. Opportunities around addition funding to support a second crime review officer are being explored following how invaluable the role has proven to be to the wider WMP investigation teams.
48. Safer Travel staff are now trained in Offender Management and currently manage a variety of repeat offenders ranging from sexual offences, vehicle crime, domestic abuse and cycle crime (BTP).
49. Working alongside the PPU and WMP Gangs Team, Safer Travel have introduced a new priority offender trace process using the Swift card database that Transport for West Midlands own. The process is used to help trace the movements of both offenders and victims who pose a threat in terms of offending or vulnerability.

Further Improve Passenger Perception of Personal Safety

50. Key to improving passenger perception of personal safety is improving waiting facilities and on-board facilities. The mechanism to make this happen is the regions Bus Alliance. The West Midlands Bus Alliance has overseen improved CCTV and lighting at Bus

Stations, improved waiting facilities at Walsall Bus Station, an increase in new buses, with customer Wi-Fi and better seating.

51. During the last financial year (01 April 2018 – 31 March 2019) there were 2,176 reports of anti-social behaviour made to the Safer Travel ASB Team via the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. Out of 2,176 reports, 906 were converted to investigations. The top overall repeat victim were bus stations and out of the 906 cases, 251 persons were 'engaged' with and 122 of those dealt with by way of civil intervention. Out of 122 civil interventions, only 9 people repeated their anti-social behaviour. 15 restorative justice sessions were held and none of those individuals went on to commit further offending.

Maximise the Benefits from the use of Technology

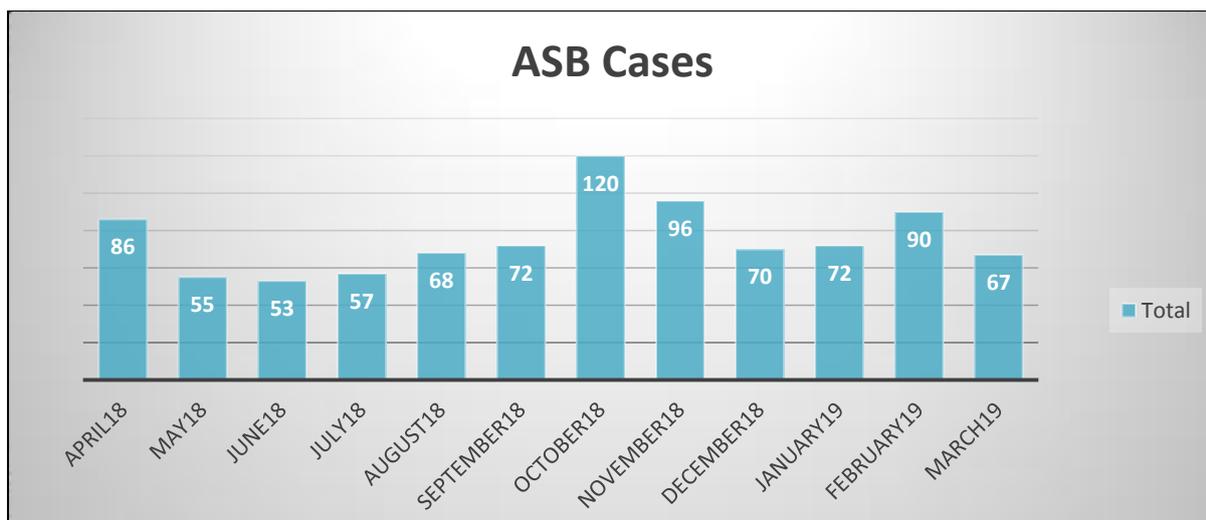
52. The 'See Something, Say Something' text message service continues to be well used, with over 1,000 reports a year being made into the Partnership through this route.

53. National Express have committed to and maintained 100% CCTV coverage across their bus fleet. This has been equally embraced by Transport for West Midlands who have now upgraded all of their cameras to HD IP. These cameras are streamed back to their 24/7 BS7958 control centre. West Midlands Police have direct and remote access into this CCTV control centre to support operations and event management.

54. The advancement of contactless and none cash payments has been successful in terms of increasing patronage on those routes as well as the number of operators. In time it is anticipated that this will assist in the reduction of theft and robbery offences. Utilising Swift data it has been possible to identify offenders, vulnerable victims and key witnesses.

Enhance the use of Civil Interventions

55. The multi-disciplinary ASB team have continued to lead on the Safer Travel Partnership use of civil interventions, leading on 906 cases throughout 2018/19.



56. Taking each of these on a case by case basis, interventions were determined by individual behaviours displayed and an assessment of the most likely intervention to achieve a successful outcome. Below is an overview of these interventions:

Accumulative ASB Team Civil Actions Taken 18/19	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1st Stage Warning Letter	15	16	25	32	38	40	42	75	77	99	108	128
Final warning	5	6	7	7	7	7	8	9	9	16	17	20
Restorative Justice	2	2	6	7	7	7	7	10	10	11	15	15
Verbal warning/Advisory Letter	5	5	6	6	6	6	12	14	14	22	34	63
Acceptable Behaviour Contract	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	6	6
Breach of Criminal Behaviour Order	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Breach of Civil injunction	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Civil Injunction	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Criminal Behaviour Order	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Community Protection Warning	0	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

57. Building on the work of the ASB team who deal with reports of nuisance behaviour on the network the Safer travel Partnership, Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) has developed a set of Bus Byelaws. These are similar to powers used by BTP on the rail network and mirroring a number of civil conditions of carriage cited by Bus Operators. The byelaws relate to a number areas of ASB including;

- Unacceptable behaviour
- Drunkenness, drugs & unfit to travel
- Smoking and vaping
- Ticketless travel & misuse of tickets
- Actions in stations including unauthorised access and loitering

58. Approval from Government would allow such persons that TfWM would want to authorise, initially Safer Travel team WMP Officers to use the byelaws on a day to day basis to curb nuisance behaviour. Breach of byelaws can ultimately be enforced as a

criminal offence through penalty fine and the courts. It is anticipated the byelaws will be able to be implemented before the end of 2019.

Improve Passenger Engagement and Communication

59. Following the Faith conference which was led by the PCC and Mayor in 2017, a joint hate crime awareness campaign was launched by them on the 1st of March. This campaign was created with the purpose of tackling hate crime on public transport.
60. The campaign aims to increase passenger perception of safety and combat hate crime as a united community by combining all 5 protected characteristics of hate crime: race, religion, sexuality, LGB and transgender. With the aim to encourage passengers and members of the public to report hate crime, the campaign features three reporting partners - True Vision, TellMama and the Community Safety Trust.
61. Since the launch of the campaign in March, the number of reports of hate crime on buses has tripled, indicating a positive response from the campaign and reflecting increased awareness of reporting lines. The launch received positive coverage on both printed and social media, and continues to be regularly promoted by key partners.
62. Social media following and engagement has increased on all official Safer Travel accounts including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Good news articles are distributed weekly to cover topics such as vehicle safety advice, cycle crime prevention, knife crime and Safer Travel knife arch operations, drugs operations with WMP Dogs Unit and operator revenue gateways.

End of Year Performance

Measure	2017/18 (Apr - Mar)	2018/19 (Apr - Mar)	Percentage Change
Total Public Transport	5242	5759	10% increase
Total Bus Crime	2878	3073	7% increase
Total Rail Crime	2364	2686	14% increase

Measure	2017/18 (Apr - Mar)	2018/19 (Apr - Mar)	Percentage Change
Total Recorded Crime	2878	3073	7% increase
Common Assault	351	374	7% increase
Public Order	283	391	38% increase
Theft From The Person	217	233	7% increase
Criminal Damage	787	628	20% reduction
Robbery	247	317	28% increase
Violence With Injury	452	489	8% increase
Other	408	491	20% increase
Sexual Offences	132	150	14% increase

63. From April 2018 to the end of March 2019 crime across the West Midlands increased by 11%. Comparatively crime on the bus network of the West Midlands increased by 7%, or 195 crimes. Whilst most significant increases were seen in public order and robbery offences, the Safer Travel team have been key to West Midlands Police's tactical

approach to tackling such offences (an example of which is Project Guardian detailed below). Most significant reductions were seen in criminal damage. As an illustration there is 1 crime for every 107,157 bus journeys in the region. The area where most crime was attributed was Central Birmingham and the arterial routes to and from the city. As perhaps expected this area also represents the areas of highest footfall and bus usage.

64. The most recent wave of survey results from Transport Focus has shown that there has been a moderate improvement in passenger perception of personal safety. Areas of concern most commonly cited within the survey were rowdy behaviour, feet on seats and loud music.

Key Safer Travel Operational activities linked to WMP Force Priorities

Project Guardian (Formerly known as Op Forecast)

65. Between 25th February 2019 and 4th May 2019, Safer Travel conducted a total of 93 operational deployments to Op Guardian alongside National Express staff. To support this Safer Travel purchased a knife Arch to the value of £5,500 which has been used across the Force. Safer Travel's ability to deploy the knife arch in the early days of Guardian was absolutely pivotal to the operation.

66. Safer Travel carried out 156 Weapon sweeps of buses alongside weapon sweeps of every bus station throughout the West Midlands. A total of 2 weapons have been found and 4 arrests for drug and warrant offences. Safer Travel loaned their full time Inspector to work alongside BW/BE NPU's to co-ordinate Force Resources.

County Lines

67. Safer Travel continues to support County Lines activity during the planned National Intensification weeks with a number of planned operations alongside BTP, West Midlands Trains, West Mercia Police, Virgin Policing Team and National Express. The Operations involve a wide variety of deployments in train stations and bus stations using dogs, behavioural detection officers and knife arches.

Financial Overview

68. The Safer Travel Partnership continues to be funded from a variety of sources and funding levels have been agreed for the forthcoming year. Below is an overview of the Partnerships funding arrangement within 2018/19.

69. In 2018/19, the Safer Travel Partnership budget was total of £2,860,490. This was split into £1,941,590 West Midlands Combined Authority, £579,900 WMP, £235,000 Midland Metro Ltd and £104,000 National Express.

Ensure a Co-ordinated, Partnership Response to Issues of Road Safety

70. Keeping the roads of the West Midlands moving is particularly important to residents, visitors and businesses within the region. Road deaths and serious injuries, whilst

decreasing in recent times, remain a tragedy for all those affected. As well as the human cost, these incidents impose a heavy economic burden.

Network Resilience

71. There have been a range of developments in securing network resilience. The Regional Integrated Co-ordination Centre (RICC) continues to achieve a more joined up approach to urban traffic management by bringing together the seven existing local authority control centres. Other developments include:

Local Resilience Forum – Transport Sub Group

72. The General Working Group of the West Midlands Local Resilience Forum agreed in November 2018 to the formation of a Transport Sub Group. The formation of the group is in line with the recommendations of the Kerslake review following the Manchester Arena attack.

73. The Transport Sub Group will be entirely focussed on managing the transport provision in the event of a significant incident, planning for and co-ordinating the return to Business as Usual as well as managing the co-ordinated messaging across all modes of travel to ensure that the public are given the most appropriate travel advice in a timely fashion.

74. The Transport Sub Group consists of multiple agencies including Transport for West Midlands, Highways England, Highways Authorities and public transport operators. The group reports into the General Working Group and in the event of an incident, via SCG's and TCG's.

Regional Transport Coordination Centre (RTCC)

75. The Regional Transport Coordination Centre (RTCC) has been developed as a multi-agency, multi modal facility that brings together the wider transport community and West Midlands Police. The aim is to enable cross boundary and multi-modal coordination of the management of the transport system minimising impacts during the delivery of investments in the transport system including HS2, motorway, new and extended public transport (tram and Sprint) and provide a consistent source of information to residents and businesses about road works, delays and enable them to plan journeys to avoid this disruption. The overarching objective is to support the West Midlands economy during these major investments, ensuring residents can continue to access education, employment and leisure activities as well as keeping businesses connected to their labour and trade markets and supply chains. It will also support major events such as Coventry City of Culture and Commonwealth Games providing a base for regional transport operations.

76. WMCA has provided capital investment into the delivery of the RTCC which will enter its first phase of operations in December 2019. Ahead of this, mini pilots are being undertaken to test and confirm the concept of operations using events such as the Velo cycling, cricket world cup and the closure of Five Ways underpass in Birmingham City Centre to all traffic whilst the Metro extension is constructed.

77. WMP are sighted on the progress of the RTCC and have attended workshops and will be involved in the testing of the pilot RTCC, taking into account how the RTCC will work with and alongside the forces Contact Centre and the new Command and Control system (Control Works).

Major Event Transport Board (METB)

78. The RTCC will provide strategic information about planned works, major events and the performance of the public transport and road networks in real time. To assist with the planning of events that will attract large number of people to the region, WMCA TfWM has set up a strategic liaison group which brings together those planning events with wider transport and policing colleagues. This adds value to the event Safety Advisory Groups, looking more strategically at horizon scanning, alongside other activities such as the construction programme and making use of the intelligence that we have about any upcoming restrictions on the transport system that may impact on the operations for events. The METB brings information together from various sources including construction, policing, sport and other cultural events to aid this. It helps connect event organisers into more strategic planning on the wider transport network effective planning and delivery.

Regional Control Centre (RCC)

79. CMPG Regional Control Centre (RCC) continue to work on the partnership with Highways England (HE) ensuring a joined approach to incidents on the strategic network. An interoperability airwaves channel is being implemented to enable a robust incident management process, preventing delays and 'trapped traffic'.

HS2

80. The West Midlands Region has a HS2 Sub Group which allows direct information from the national policing lead into the West Midlands Region for all HS2 related matters. During the next quarter an 'emergency services' group for the West Midlands Police force area will be formed and chaired by WMP. The aim of this group is to provide a coordinated partnership approach between businesses, emergency services and other public sector bodies in relation to issues such as crime, transport disruption, communication, disruption to business and wider resilience matters. This is in line with the approach taken by other regional forces.

Next Steps

81. The Board is asked to review the contents of the report and members of the portfolio will be available to answer any questions raised.

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