

# The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

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***Alan Hardwick***

***The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire***

## **Quarterly Force Performance Update – April 2016**

A key aspect of the role of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is to hold the Chief Constable to account. Part of this responsibility is met by publishing information on the PCC website about how well the Force is performing on a quarterly basis, these reports can be found at: [www.lincolnshire-pcc.gov.uk/Policy/Performance.aspx](http://www.lincolnshire-pcc.gov.uk/Policy/Performance.aspx).

From the performance statistics detailed in this document, you can assess how well Lincolnshire Police is performing in key areas such as reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, solving crime, how satisfied victims are with the services they receive and how confident people are with the police service in Lincolnshire. Areas of performance that are exceptionally good and also those areas that need further work are highlighted.

In the period January to April 2016 all recorded crime showed a 2% increase compared to the same period last year. However, the 5 year trend for all reported crime continues to show crime is reducing in Lincolnshire. The latest data available shows that Lincolnshire Police is ranked 5<sup>th</sup> out of all 43 forces in England and Wales and 1<sup>st</sup> amongst the forces in our region.

House burglary continues to show a reducing 5 year trend although the decline has slowed with 0.5% fewer offences in the year to date, (9 fewer crimes this year compared to last). Also continuing to fall are the number of, anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents, with 974 (4.6%) fewer incidents recorded this period compared to the same period last year.

All forces nationally are experiencing rises in the violence against the person (with injury) category of offending. However, Lincolnshire Police is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> out of all 43 forces in England and Wales, which equates to 537 additional offences when compared to last year. The force focusses its response to this type of offending through Operation NOVA (No to Violence and Abuse), which aims to reduce alcohol related anti-social behaviour and reduce violence in the night time economy and in the home.

The latest resolution<sup>1</sup> figures show that Lincolnshire Police is achieving a rate of 31% for all crimes, 13.4% for burglary dwelling crimes and 46.2% for violence against the person with injury crimes.

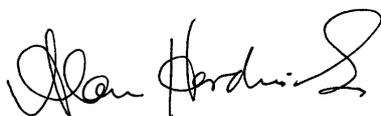
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<sup>1</sup> The way that the Home Office records crime 'outcomes' changed in April 2014. Crime outcomes are now monitored as to whether they are 'resolved', 'un-finalised' (active investigation) or 'no crime'. The resolved crime category used in this document include charge, summons, caution, taken into consideration, offender has died, penalty notices, cannabis warning, community resolution, prosecution not in the public interest.

The number of people who have been killed or seriously injured (KSI) on our roads continues to show a reducing 5 year trend and the Force is on track to achieve the joint aim set with the Lincolnshire Roads Safety Partnership of a 20% reduction in KSI by 2020. However, recent tragic incidents have seen the number rise by 10 this calendar year compared to last, which translates into a 25% increase.

A number of specific case study highlights (covering the period January – March 2016) are included with this report to hopefully provide some additional detail in support of the performance data provided. These examples show just some of the good work that the Force has carried out in upholding the law, protecting the public and bringing offenders to justice.

The next quarterly update will be issued in July 2016, covering the period from April – June 2016. You can find local crime rates and trends via the crime mapper website available at [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Hardwick', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alan Hardwick  
Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

## Quarterly Force Performance Update (January 2016 – April 2016)

### Recorded Crime

All recorded crime is **up 2.0 % with 702 more crimes** in the period April 2015 to March 2016 compared to same period last year with an improving 5 year trend.

**Violence against the person (with injury)<sup>2</sup>** crime is **up 16.7% with 537 more crimes** in the period April 2015 to March 2016 compared to same period last year.

**Burglary dwelling** offences are **down 0.5 % with 9 fewer crimes** in the period April 2015 to March 2016 compared to same period last year with an **improving** 5 year trend.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

Recorded incidents of **Anti-Social Behaviour** have reduced across the county by 4.6% (974 fewer incidents in the period April – March 2016 compared to same period last year) with an improving 5 year trend.

For the period April 2015 – March 2016, the Force has recorded 5324 instances of **Criminal damage and Arson Crime**. This is up by 0.1 % with 7 more crimes compared to the same period last year. The 5 year trend is one of improvement.

### Solving Crime

The latest resolution figures (in the period April 2015 – March 2016) show that the Force is recording a rate of 31.% for all crimes, 13.4% for burglary dwelling crimes and 46.2% for violence against the person with injury crimes.

### Satisfaction with Service

A telephone survey is carried out on a monthly basis that assesses the extent to which victims of burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime are satisfied with their experience of the police.

Latest data (rolling 12 month average to March 2016) shows that 81.6% of victims surveyed were satisfied<sup>3</sup> with the service they received. The current 12 month rolling figure for the satisfaction rate of victims in relation to being 'kept informed' is 71.2%.

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<sup>2</sup> This crime category includes assault with injury, death by dangerous driving, attempted murder and endangering life.

<sup>3</sup> The figures represent the percentage of these victims who are satisfied (fairly, very or completely satisfied) with the overall service provided by the police (whole experience).

The current 12 month rolling figure for overall satisfaction levels in relation to Anti-social behaviour is 71.4%. The satisfaction rate for ASB 'kept informed' is 62.8%. The Force is aiming for an improving 5 year trend in these categories.

### **Confidence in local policing**

The nationally run Crime Survey for England and Wales reports on the public's confidence in their local police service. The latest percentage of people surveyed (to September 2015) who agreed or strongly agreed with the following question: 'Taking everything into account, I have confidence in the police in this area' is 73.6%. Lincolnshire Police's aim is to maintain the levels of confidence recorded in 2012 (70%).

### **Killed and Seriously Injured**

The number of people killed and seriously injured (KSI) on the roads in the county is 50 (for the period January – February 2016) this is up 25 % with 10 more compared to the same time last year. The Force remains on track to achieve the joint aim set with the Lincolnshire Roads Safety Partnership of a 20% reduction in KSI by 2020.

### **Case Study Highlights: January – April 2016**

#### **Lincolnshire Police praised in Parliament**

In February in the House of Commons Karl McCartney, MP for Lincoln, praised the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable and Lincolnshire Police.

In an exchange with the Home Secretary Mr McCartney said, "Although I have had my differences at times with Alan Hardwick, the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner, does my right honourable friend agree that his record, along with that of Lincolnshire Police, in reducing crime is exemplary, excellent, and is an example to all?"

In response, Mrs May said, "Again, I extend congratulations and welcome the work of the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner in reducing crime in Lincolnshire. It is not the only area where crime has fallen, but the fall in Lincolnshire is particularly significant."

#### **Serial burglar jailed for six years**

A man who committed more than 35 burglaries in a seven-month period has been jailed for six years.

James Jones, 40, of East Liberty in Lincoln, was convicted yesterday on February 29 at Lincoln Crown Court of a burglary at Hall Drive in Lincoln during the early hours of January 7. He then went on to admit 26 other burglaries (all dwelling) in the Lincoln area between December last year and January this year, and a further 10 burglaries (dwelling) and one other burglary offence in Skegness between July and November 2015.

Jones was arrested in the early hours of January 7 when he was seen by an officer walking along a riverbank near Dixon Street, Lincoln, who took a proactive decision to find out who he was. A later search found he was in possession of property that could link him to the earlier burglary.

Whilst in custody prior to trial Jones fully complied with Operation Clean Slate and admitted the further offences in Lincoln and Skegness during two productions from prison by CID Officers.

DC Phil Elliot, the investigating officer in the case, said: "I am very pleased with the sentence passed down to the defendant in this case. Having spoken to the victims of these offences it is clear that the crimes Jones committed have had a significant impact on them, many were concerned about being targeted again and not feeling safe in their own homes. Being able to tell them that the offender had been caught and has been given a substantial length of time in prison has given a significant degree of reassurance to them.

"I would like to add that the proactive actions taken by the Response Officer in challenging Jones on the night of his arrest played a significant part in this positive result, it was then down to good investigative teamwork within the CID department that so many victims of crime have had a positive result. I hope that the significant sentence imposed acts as a deterrent to others."

### **Man jailed for 40 months following Lincoln burglaries**

Shane Carter, 35, has been jailed for three years and four months following two commercial burglaries in Lincoln.

He pleaded guilty to the two charges against him: a burglary at Lincoln Goldsmiths Jewellers on December 21 2015, and a burglary at Lincoln Oldrids Downtown on December 30 2015.

DC Adam Petty, who led the investigation, said: "I'm pleased with Carter's sentence, which is really quite lengthy. He is an offender who caused a great deal of inconvenience to local businesses. The right thing has happened today and I hope it sends a message to anyone else thinking of carrying out these types of offences that they will not be tolerated by the police or by the courts."

### **Illegal drug suppliers sentenced to total 114 years imprisonment**

In early February at Lincoln Crown Court His Honour Judge Pini QC sentenced the 13 convicted offenders who were involved in the large scale distribution and sale of illegal drugs in the Grantham area and the south of Lincolnshire. Some of the gang members pleaded not guilty and their trial was concluded on December 18 2015.

Operation Bivan was commenced by the East Midlands Special Operations Unit in collaboration with Lincolnshire Police and was focused on the activities of Jonathon Ferry and members of his organised crime group (OCG) based in and around the Earlsfield Estate in Grantham. The enquiry identified that Ferry was responsible for the sourcing and distribution of cocaine, heroin, Mkat and amphetamine from long established relationships with other organised crime groups based in Manchester and Nottingham.

## **Operation Marek - Drugs gang sentenced to 78 years**

Following what he referred to as “a professional and well run police operation” his Honour Judge S Hirst sentenced sixteen defendants to a total of 78 years in prison at Lincoln Crown Court on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

The defendants were part of an organised criminal gang and supplied cocaine, amphetamine, heroin, MCAT and cannabis across the UK. All seventeen had pleaded guilty to offences which included conspiracy to supply controlled drugs, production of cannabis, possession with intent to supply, possession of criminal property, allowing premises to be used for the supply of controlled drugs and dangerous driving previously at Lincoln Crown Court.

Police forces from across the UK, led by the East Midlands Special Operations Unit (EMSOU), were involved in detecting the conspiracy offences, seizing a total of £31,232 in cash, 12.23 kilos of controlled drugs and 10.9 kilos of mixing agents in the process. These seizures would have an approximate street value of £1,613,761.

The investigation by the EMSOU officers resulted in the groups drug dealing being brought to an abrupt end and a substantial amount of drugs were prevented from reaching the streets.

The gang, masterminded by Philip Bell and already a convicted drug dealer, used family and friends within Lincolnshire to take possession of controlled drugs who in turn supplied them to other drug dealers across the UK under Bell's direction. Bell used his criminal contacts to source the drugs and facilitate the operation.

The plot began to unravel in October last year (2015) when Linda Haw and her husband, Joao Dos-Reis, both from Wyberton, were stopped making a delivery of amphetamine, cocaine and MCAT valued in excess of £40,000. Linda Haw was a trusted member of the gang taking deliveries, distributing the drugs and storing them at her own home address and that of her friend Margaret Wattam, who also lived in Wyberton.

In November a search warrant was executed at the home address of Amber Medina who lived in Kirton, 4 kilos of cocaine valued at £158,000 were recovered along with scales and other items related to drug supply. John O'Connell, from Anfield, who had made the delivery to Medina's address, was arrested travelling back to Merseyside with £15,500 in cash in his possession.

In December Ian Jones from Knotty Ash in Merseyside was arrested in Boston in possession of 1 kilo of heroin valued at £66,000.

Michael Chand, from St Ives, Cambridgeshire, was involved in the supply and distribution of heroin, organising those around him.

Leslie Hodgson was the Humberside link taking possession of drugs from the gang and supplying these in the Humberside area. His partner Paula Jackson, from Hull, was concerned in the supply of amphetamine.

Francis Kelly, Gary Perry, John O'Connell, Raymond McNally and Neil Grant, all from Merseyside, were involved in the supply of drugs from the Merseyside area into Lincolnshire as a result of Bell's organisation.

Louise Baxter from Kirton, was a courier who made numerous trips to Hull on behalf of Bell delivering to Leslie Hodgson.

Detectives compiled a detailed, comprehensive and complex investigation which led to all of the defendants pleading guilty to their individual charges.

### **Two charged with the murder of Wayne Baxter**

On Saturday 5 March Sean Booth, aged 25 and Sarah Booth, aged 36, both of Croft Bank, Croft were charged with the murder of Wayne Michael Baxter on Wednesday 2 March 2016 near Skegness.

They will appear at Lincoln magistrates Court on Monday 7 March.

Detectives would still like to hear from anyone who was in the Woolpack Pub on 2 March who may have witnessed an altercation at that location.

Anyone with information should contact Lincolnshire Police on the non-emergency number 101 quoting incident 348 of 2 March. Calls can also be made to the national charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

### **Man jailed for eight years for rape and assault**

Appearing at Lincoln Crown Court Steven Saint, 37, was given an eight year sentence for two offences of rape and one offence of assault whilst resisting arrest. The offences date back to August 2015.

Speaking after sentencing the Investigating Officer Detective Constable Jacquie Crozier of Operation Emerald, said: "Steven Saint has pleaded guilty today and starts his sentence. My thoughts today are with the victim who has shown particular strength and bravery against a violent man".

Operation Emerald is a team of specially trained officers and experienced detectives committed and dedicated to rape investigation.

### **Update: Elderly Man Tricked Out of £23,000**

Ion Anghel, 48, has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to steal. On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April he was sentenced to three years in prison at Lincoln Crown Court. Following an incident where a 93-year-old local man was tricked out of £23,000 having being distracted whilst making a withdrawal from a bank ATM.

### **Man charged after laser shone at aircraft**

The National Police Air Service helped officers in a search for a wanted man, covering areas along the beach at Ingoldmells and the surrounding area to Hogsthorpe on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. As the police helicopter searched the area around Ingoldmells a laser was shone at the pilot and observer. At around 9.20 pm officers were successful in finding the man responsible and he was arrested for an offence of endangering an aircraft. The man was charged with an offence of directly/shining a light at an aircraft in flight so as to dazzle/distract the pilot, an

offence under the Civil Aviation Act 1982. He was bailed to appear at Skegness Magistrates Court.

### **Action taken against breach of alcohol licenses**

In January **The Jolly Crispin** had its Alcohol Premises License revoked by Boston Borough Council.

The Alcohol Licensing Team from Lincolnshire Police submitted paperwork for a Licence Review Hearing due to major concerns over the management of the pub and the criminal behaviour being centred on it.

Local officers ran an Operation targeted directly at suspected drug dealing. This proved effective, with two males currently on bail and a quantity of illegal drugs seized.

Further enforcement action has seen East Lindsey District Council suspend the Alcohol Premises Licence of the **The Stumble Inn**, 128-130 Lumley Road, and Skegness.

Lincolnshire Police submitted evidence for a Licence review due to major concerns over the management of the pub and the amount of violent incidents associated with the venue.

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 a hearing decided that it was appropriate to suspend the licence for a period of one month. In addition new, more rigorous conditions have been imposed on the licence. Further sanctions will be taken should the issues remain unresolved following the suspension.

### **Hare Coursing – 2016 review**

Traditionally the peak months for hare coursing are from the beginning of September until the end of March. This gives us an opportunity to review Operation Galileo over the same period.

From 1st September to 31st March there have been 176 men arrested or reported for summons. This is compared to 65 men in the 2014/15 season. This is a 170% increase in our enforcement activity. In addition 19 vehicles have been seized. 93 other men have been dealt with by other disruption tactics and enforcement action such as Direction to Leave, traffic offences, etc. Three dogs have been seized.

Reviewing our calls for service over the same period, there have been 2169 reported incidents of hare coursing, compared to 987 during the 2014/15 season. This represents a 120% increase in hare coursing incidents across Lincolnshire and is broadly in line with what other local police forces have experienced. The worst hit area for hare coursing incidents has been the South Holland area, which recorded 937 incidents. 43% of all hare coursing incidents in Lincolnshire were recorded in South Holland.

To put these figures in to perspective, in November and December, the busiest months, there was an average of 15 hare coursing incidents per day. One of the busiest days showed 30 incidents of hare coursing on a Monday in December: 21 of the incidents were in South Holland. Some of these incidents were duplicates of other calls; however they are still useful for comparison purposes.

Chief Inspector Jim Tyner, force lead for rural crime said: 'Operation Galileo is here to stay. This huge increase in incidents of hare coursing shows the significant impact on our rural communities. Despite competing policing demands, we have continued to provide a response and this is reflected in the high number of men dealt with for hare coursing offences. In partnership with representatives from the NFU, the CLA and other agencies, I am now looking at our tactics for the next season, where we will be focussing on the seizure of dogs used in hare coursing. This has been shown to have the biggest impact on those who chose to come to our county to take part in this illegal act'.

### **Sperm whales wash up on the Lincolnshire Coast**

Much publicity was generated when sperm whales washed up on Skegness beach and despite a vast amount of attention from the press and public police took a lead in ensuring the public were kept at a distance.

Advice was issued that any public interfering with the carcasses of the sperm whales may have constituted a criminal offence. Indeed, a photo was circulated online of a man who appeared to be trying to remove teeth from one of the animals.

Sperm whales are a species protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. The regulations state that being in possession of any part of the animal, alive or dead, or selling or exchanging any such part, is an offence punishable by six months in prison and/or an unlimited fine.

The force lead for rural crime, Chief Inspector Jim Tyner said: "It is not surprising that the sad deaths of these animals has generated considerable fascination and large numbers of people have been coming to Skegness to look at them. However, people need to be aware that touching the creatures is a risk to health and taking 'trophies' is against the law. Anyone removing teeth or other parts of the whales may be committing a serious offence, the penalty for which can be quite significant."

\*\*\*Ends\*\*\*

#### **Note:**

Section 11 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act requires a local policing body to publish the information which the body considers to be necessary to enable the persons who live in the body's area to assess:

- (a) the performance of the body in exercising the body's functions; and
- (b) the performance of the relevant chief officer of police in exercising the chief officer's functions.

Such information will be published on the Commissioner's website at the end of each quarter.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/enacted>

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